GREENWICH LESBIAN AND GAY RIGHTS GROUP

Workers: Margaret Honey
Gill King
Geoff Hardy
David Simpson

18 Haddo Street
Greenwich
London SE10 9RN
01-853 5206

APRIL/MAY NEWSLETTER/APRIL/MAY NEWSLETTER

LATEST ON CHARLIE MASLIN AS KING CANUTE (OR THE VAIN ATTEMPT OF ONE MAN TO HALT PROGRESS)

The enclosed letter was passed on to us. It is sad to see a trade union taking such a reactionary stance. It is utterly outrageous that a trade union should be calling for the redundancies of other workers.

We would like to correct some inaccuracies. Firstly, we are not gay social workers but development workers. Secondly, we are funded by the Council itself by direct grant, not with urban aid. Thirdly, the Charter was passed on to Council committees by Community Affairs Committee, not by us.

At a Nalgo meeting of the voluntary sector the following motion was passed:

> This Branch supports the consideration of the Charter for Lesbian and Gay Rights by the Council as an essential step in eradicating discrimination against lesbians and gay men in the Borough.
>
> We deplore the fact that TGWU/ACTSS are effectively calling for the sacking of other trade union members as contrary to fundamental trade union principles.
>
> This Branch calls on the Council to continue to pursue itXs considerations of the proposals in the Charter as Council policy.
>
> This Branch will continue to support any of it's members who are discriminated against in their work on the grounds of sexual orientation.

Later that week articles appeared in The Mercury, Capital Gay and City Limits.

On the following Wednesday we organised a lobby of the local Branch meeting of ACTSS. About twenty-five people attended, including a woman from Central London ACTSS who asked Charlie Maslin if she could speak to the meeting. She was refused. We learnt that Charlie Maslin had told his members that we wanted to have sex with three year olds! In his last statement to the press he said, 'Yes I am personally prejudiced and happen to believe that homosexuality is perverted'. We have written to Mr Maslin and suggested a meeting with him. We also want to lobby the next Branch meeting: May 8th, Charlton House, Charlton, SE7.

We have made this situation widely known to the press, left-wing and lesbian/gay organisations proposing that they write to John Austin-Walker about the letter and asking for his continued support of lesbian and gay rights. Letters to Charlie Maslin are also a good idea. Please send copies of all letters to us.

EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES

The Council has an equal opportunities policy that includes lesbians and gay men. Unfortunately we do not appear on any of the job adverts. We think that this may be 'informal' censorship by a Council employee(s). In a leaflet that is being prepared for distribution to all council workers entitled 'Introduction to the Equal Opportunities Policy', we appear only once in the following paragraph:

> 'Many different groups of people are under-represented in the workforce at present and the Council has so far identified four groups for priority action. These are ethnic minorities, women, lesbians and gay men and disabled people.'

John Austin-Walker, the leader of the Council has called for the deletion of 'lesbians and gay men' on the grounds that there is no evidence for the statement. This appears to follow the crazy logic that as I have not met any then they don't exist! Clearly, if they are serious about ending discrimination then they must take the issue of our invisibility seriously. In order to make it safer for lesbians and gay men, they must include us whether they can prove it statistically or not. There is also a section on harassment which does not mention anti lesbian or anti gay harassment. We have written to all the relevant officers and councillors calling for a meeting to explain, yet again, our situation and demand that we are included in this leaflet in bothsections.

There will be a meeting of the committee dealing with the leaflet at which we will speak and be a large presence. It is on the 29th May in the Town Hall, Woolwich. (P. & I.R. Committee). So May looks like another busy, hot month! Please give us your fullest support.

PEOPLE TO PEOPLE, CHANNEL FOUR, 12th May, 9.15pm

The above programme was made by Albany Video and is about the abolition of the GLC and it's effect on the local community (Deptford/Greenwich/Lewisham). As we appeared in it, we went to see the rough edit last week. Once again we were aware of the issue of invisibility. The issues around race, sex and disability were taken up and discussed by all groups, but the only time that we were mentioned was when we were on...

However, after looking through the transcript, we managed to make our contribution more positive. To their credit, Albany Video had read through all the transcripts and found one mention of lesbians (!) which will now be included.It really is time that we ceased being marginalised in this way!

Perhaps you would like to write in and say so after you have seen it...

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

A MAUPIN MARATHON in aid of GAY'S THE WORD.

12 noon, Sat 27th - 9pm, Sun 28th April.

Admission 50p at any time.

Grand launch on Sat at noon by Chris Smith MP
Auction of books used in the readings signed by the author and the readers, by Fay Presto, Sun 9pm.

Armistead Maupins work 'Tales of the City','More Tales of the City', 'Further Tales of the City', has aquired a cult following among lesbians and gay men because of his warm portrayal of lesbian and gay characters and wildly improbable camp plots.

AT: THE FALLEN ANGEL, 65 GRAHAM ST, N1.

If you would like to sponsor the reading, contact Consenting Adults in Public, 89 Paulet Road, SE5 9HW - or turn up on the day(s), watch, listen and sponsor!

THE CRYPT

AN exclusive new club for gay people (I quote). Every Sunday, 8pm to 12.00. 'Warm, friendly atmos phere in unique surroundings' Pool tables and dancing. Refreshments.

Entry £1.50.
Venue: St Paul's Church, Deptford High Street, SE8.
Transport: Tube: New Cross. BR: New Cross (Deptford BR closed on Sundays). Bus: 188, 47, 1, 53, 177).

THE TIMES OF HARVEY MILK

A film about the first avowed homosexual to win political office in a major US city: San Francisco. He was assassinated in 1978 because he was gay.

'A riveting documentary which should not be missed by anyone concerned with gay rights...conveys the full horror and ridicule of Dan White's trial. A great film, go and see it.'

From 26th April, Everyman Cinema, Hampstead.
Tube: Hampstead.

LONDON LESBIAN AND GAY CENTRE:

Every week- Mixed disco on Fridays.
Women only on Thursdays and Saturdays (Discos).
Tea Dance FOOLISH THINGS 4 - 7.30, Sundays. £1.50/£1/75p
Sundays after 8.00, Disco til 12.00.

3rd May: Lesbian Herstory. Women Only. 7.30pm.

3rd 4th and 5th May: FESTIVAL - Lesbian and Gay Youth Movement.

4th May: Women's Disco benefit for Lesbian Strength.

8th May: Mixed Disco. Benefit for Pride '85.

14th May: Body Positive disco. Run by Body Positive.

1st and 2nd June: Lesbian Line Conference.

Members Meeting: early June. Main item: Use of the Centre (should any groups or individuals be denied access to LLGC? This has provoked a lot of debate. If you have a motion to

put to the meeting, send it to: Wendy Clarke, LLGC, 67-69 Cowcross Street, Farringdon EC1 BEFORE 8th May.

If you are not a member, why not? If LLGC is going to survive, it will only do so if you support it. It's your Centre!

OPEN MEETING OF GLGRG

There will be a discussion around the subject of disabilities. We hope to have people from Gemma and Gay Men's Disabled Group present.

Venue: Volunteer Bureau, Macbean Centre, Macbean Street, Woolwich.

Time: 8.00pm

Date: Wednesday May 1st.

We will have to change the day of the monthly Open Meeting soon.

This is because the Women's Night at the Bell is on Wednesdays and we want to be a mixed group!
If you have any preferences as to which evening we should select, please let us know as soon as you can.
It was also decided at the last Open Meeting that they will in future be held in different areas of the Borough so that all can have equal access. Meetings will continue to be held in venues that are wheelchair accessible.

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The newsletter is sent to you free of charge. This is quite costly.

As long as receiving it is important to you, then it is worth it.
If you no longer wish to receive it then we need to know.

Please fill in the slip below if you wish to continue to receive it, sending it to us in the office.

Name:

Address:

Tel No.

****

We would also like to receive your news, views and comments. If you would like to contribute, then send what you have to us at the office.

GREENWICH FESTIVAL: LESBIAN/GAY NIGHTS AT THE BELL

On each of the weekends over the Festival - 31st May to 16th June - there will be cabaret-style entertainment: singers, comedians, poets etc.(Fri, Sat, Sun).

Starting late - 10/11 ish - there will be vegetarian food and a small cover charge.

The Bell, 18 Haddo Street, Greenwich, SE10. Tel: 853 0943.
BR: Greenwich; Bus: 180, 177, 188, 108B.

We'll keep you in touch regarding all the other events we're organising for the Festival as soon as they are confirmed. Or you can phone us on 853 5206. There is an ansaphone if you want to leave a message outside of office hours.

GROUP SOCIAL

Thursday 23rd May, 7.30 at Paddy's, 25 Charlton Rd, SE3.
It's near The Standard, Bus: 53, 75, 54, 108B.

TRANSPORT & GENERAL WORKERS' UNION

REGIONAL SECRETARY S. STADEN

Regional Office:
"Woodberry", 218 Green Lanes,
Finsbury Park, London N4 2HB.
Telephone: 01 800 4281

YOUR REF 756, 1563 & 1257 BRANCH COMMUNICATION

OUR REF CH/BC/WH

13th March, 1985.

To: Councillor J. Austin Walker, Leader of the Council.

Copy to: Councillor D. Picton, Deputy Leader.
Mr. A. Glover, Chief Executive.
Mr. P. McGreevy, P.M.S.O.
Councillor J. Gillman, Chair, P. & I.R. Committee.
Councillor V. Farlie, Vice Chair, P. & I.R. Committee.
Councillor T. Barnett, Chair, Community Affairs Committee.
Chair of New Eltham Parents Group for Mentally Handicapped Children.
All Local Papers.

Dear Councillor Austin-Walker,

re: Charter for Lesbian and Gay Rights.

ACTSS/TGWU Joint Stewards Committee have unanimously rejected the above Document, and call upon the Council to have it withdrawn immediately. Members of our Union at every level are now under instruction to refuse to deal with this Document in any way, or to furnish any information which may be called for.

We consider that our original response to the Equal Opportunity Document relating to Lesbians and Gay Men still stands, and we will actively oppose any attempt by this Council to implement either in part, or wholly, this so-called Freedom Charter. Irrespective of what the Lesbians and Gays may think, public opinion is still opposed to their way of life, and the majority of the Workers in Greenwich are likewise.

We would also like to point out that great concern has been shown by the parents of mentally handicapped children who use Greenwich Services in relation to paragraphs 5 and 6 on Page 24 of the Document. They, along with ourselves, are seeking legal opinion to see whether or not these paragraphs are actionable in Law. When the Urban Aid Funding for the Lesbian and Gay Social Workers ceases in 1986 we call upon this Council not to take them on to our Payroll.

In view of the fact that this opposition is there, ACTSS/TGWU hope that the Council will ensure this Document is withdrawn.

Yours faithfully,

B. Corbett. 756 & 1563 C. Maslin. 1257

Newsdesk: 01-692 1122 Tele-Ads: 01-692 7393

Mercury 3rd/4th April

Snub for guidelines on sexuality

Unions turf out 'gay charter'

A TOWN hall union has kicked out a controversial gay rights charter and is taking legal advice on some of its contents.

The joint shop stewards committee of the ACTSS/TGWU, which represents over 3,000 manual and white collar staff employed by Greenwich Council, has unanimously rejected the GLC-sponsored draft document and called for it to be withdrawn immediately.

Now members of the unions at every level, who include social workers, nursery staff and people working in residential homes, are under instructions to refuse to deal with the document in any way.

They have also pledged to "actively oppose any attempts by this council to implement either in part or wholly this so-called freedom charter."

The declaration of war was sent in a letter to council leader John Austin-Walker and warned of "great concern" shown by parents of mentally-handicapped children using Greenwich services.

They and the unions are now seeking legal advice over certain sections to see if they are "actionable in law."

Their anxiety focused on paragraphs in the charter which referred to eradicating "sexism and homophobia" in nurseries, children's homes and services for adolescents, adding "young people have a right to be informed about their scope of sexual choice s."

Another section said people in residential homes — the elderly, physically or mentally handicapped and mentally ill — were entitled to a sex life "and to a choice of sexual preference", adding: "Staff should support and assist them in this if necessary."

Charles Maslin, secretary of the ACTSS, said: "What does this mean and where does it leave our staff in relation to the law?

"The unions consider these two paragraphs out of order."

The unions' letter stated: "Irrespective of what lesbians and gays may think, public opinion is still opposed to their way of life and the majority of workers in Greenwich are likewise."

They have also called for the council not to take the workers on to the payroll when present funding ceases in view of other pressing needs in services.

Mr Maslin added: "People who use our services are very important to us. Any crisis among parents could cost us our services."

But community affairs committee chairman Tim Barnett branded the letter as "bigoted, insulting and factually incorrect" and said he regretted it.

"It is said that a trade union which has many gay and lesbian members has chosen to try and block any discussion of their members' needs.

Struggle

"This council supports the struggle of gays and lesbians in council employ in the community to eradicate the discrimination they continually face. This support is not in question."

He said the charter was discussed in a wider

cussion about how far council policies and procedures ignored the needs of gay people, adding the anti-gay attitude of the union committee needed to be challenged.

"I hope other unions will react to the call by the ACTSS/TGWU for the council to make voluntary sector staff redundant."

Greenwich gay worker Geoff Hardy said he was appalled at the letter and couldn't believe all the members felt that way.

"My initial reaction was disbelief and anger that people could still uphold these prejudices."

The draft charter is not official council policy, but was passed to committees for consideration.

Tunnel gassed

PRANKSTERS let off a gas cannister and forced the evacuation of about 50 people from a Greenwich pedestrian subway.

Firemen said they believed a group of students set off the cannister at the northern end of the tunnel on Sunday at 4.08pm.

The fumes spread along the tunnel, causing people to choke and gasp for breath until they were led to safety.

East Greenwich fire station officer Brian Mills said about nine firemen battled their way to the cannister and made it safe.

He added they did not know what the gas was, and they got rid of the fumes by allowing them to escape into the outside air.

A visit by Ken

GLC leader Ken Livingstone, Greenwich MP Guy Barnett and Greenwich Council leader John Austin-Walker are the speakers tonight (Wednesday), at a meeting organised by St Alfege's Labour Party.

The evening starts at 7pm with entertainment and a disco at the Greenwich Borough Halls, Royal Hill, Greenwich. Admission free

SUMMER SHADES
We invite you to visit
offers a collection of

FAST
01-460 4
ALPHA — ANY
★ Repay all credit
reduce outlay w
★ Home improvem
Self-employed
Rates for arre
Ring now for q
completely co
ALPHA A
17 PARK ROAD BR

Doubl
Only
great double
1. FREE 4 ex
tops. Three
Cotton Soft a
range and on
2. SAVE 15P
to knit these
or more.
Pick up your
THE
45 Lewi

Oil & Filter Change only £8.95 inc VAT. Any car
whe

WORKERS EDUCATION ASSOCIATION

NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The AGM of the Lewisham - Greenwich branch of the WEA will be held at 7 p.m. on Wednesday May 15th 1985 at the Albany, Douglas Way, Deptford, London S.E.8.

Proposed Agenda

1) Apologies

2) Minutes of the 1984 AGM

3) Matters Arising

4) Review of years provision 1984-85

5) Election of Committee 1985-86

   i) Secretary
   ii) Chairperson
   iii) Treasurer
   iv) Delegates to London District (2)
   v) Auditors
   vi) Ordinary Committee Members

6) Proposals for classes from September 1985

7) Any other business

Please attend and bring your friends! The branch needs support if it is to mount an effective programme of courses next year.

There will be a creche. It would be helpful if you could let me know in advance if you want to use it.

SEE YOU THERE

Lee Albert
(for Lewisham-Greenwich branch)
The Albany
Douglas Way
Deptford, S.E.8.
692 0231)

WANT TO KNOW MORE ABOUT THE W.E.A.? - WHAT IT IS, - WHAT IT CAN DO FOR YOU?

Then Ring 690 - 4343 ext. 436/5 and ask for a leaflet.

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3rd May 1985

PRIDE '85 FESTIVAL, GOLDSMITH'S COLLEGE, 20th JUNE

Goldsmith's College Gaysoc and the Greenwich Lesbian and Gay Rights Group are joining forces to present a day-long festival for Lesbian and Gay Pride '85. It will take place at the College (Lewisham Way, New Cross) on 20th June.

The aim is to celebrate the richness and diversity of the lesbian and gay community. There will be stalls from lesbian and gay groups/organisations and workshops throughout the day, a disco in the evening.

If you would like to take part, please send the tear-off slip below to: Geoff, Greenwich Lesbian and Gay Rights Group, 18 Haddo Street, Greenwich, London SE10 9RN.

****

We would like to run a stall:

Name of Group/Organisation:

We require one/two tables; We would like a display board.

We would like to run a workshop on*.....

.....

*We would prefer am/pm

There will be a registration fee to cover administration costs, at a nominal fee of £2.00 per group. Please enclose this fee with your form. Thanks. (Cheques to: Greenwich Lesbian and Gay Rights Group).

All registrations by May 31st please.

(Tables will be provided. Some display boards are available, but please bring your own if possible).

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01-853 5206

= AGM =

The Annual General Meeting of the group will be at Clockhouse Community Centre, Defiance Walk, off Leda Rd, Woolwich Dockyard, on JULY 1ST AT 7.30pm

****

ELECTIONS WILL BE HELD FOR A NEW STAFF GROUP/MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE.

THERE WILL BE TWELVE POSTS: FOUR RESERVED FOR THOSE FROM ETHNIC MINORITIES; SIX POSTS WILL BE FOR WOMEN, SIX FOR MEN.

AFTER THE MEETING THERE WILL BE A SOCIAL WITH WINE AND FOOD.

PLEASE MAKE EVERY EFFORT TO ATTEND.

****

LESBIAN STRENGTH CELEBRATION:- 22nd June, Saturday.

ASSEMBLE HYDE PARK, SPEAKERS CORNER, 12.30 - 1.30. Route via Park Lane and Fleet Street to London Lesbian and Gay Centre. for entertainments.

****

LESBIAN AND GAY PRIDE CARNIVAL:- 29th June, Saturday.

We have booked a stall at Jubilee Gardens for the Whole Day. It would be lOvely to see you!!

CARNIVAL ASSEMBLES HYDE PARK, SPEAKERS CORNER, 1.00 - 2.00pm. Proceeds to Jubilee Gardens for live bands, stalls etc.

GREENWICH LESBIAN AND GAY RIGHTS GROUP

Tel: 853 5206.

I8 Haddo St.
Greenwich
SEIO.

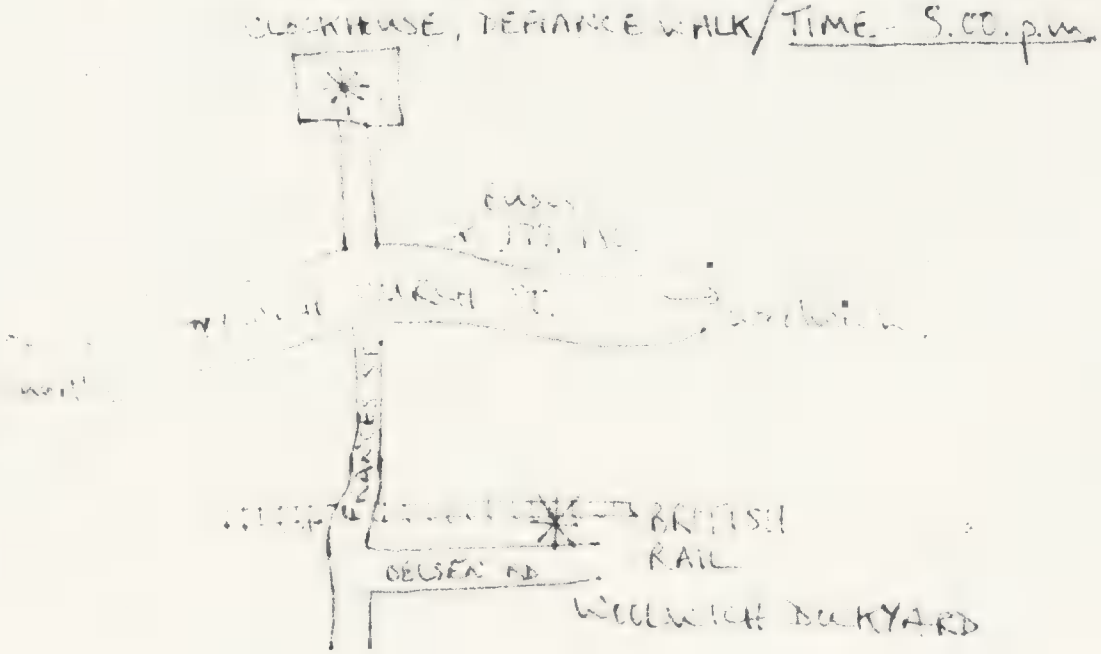
NEWSLETTER-STOP PRESS.

ACTSS: Following a discussion at the last open meeting and between the workers we would like to have an open meeting to discuss the next steps around ACTSS and the Council. Everyone is welcome. The date is TUESDAY I4th MAY 8.00pm at the Bell (address as above). The latest is that we had a motion passed at the last Nalgo branch meeting supporting lesbians and gay men. Some groups and individuals have written letters and we have called for a meeting with the leader of the Council,John Austin-Walker.

TELEPHONE LINE:
The next meetings of the telephone groups are on TUESDAY 28th May forthe mixed group and THURSDAY 30th MAY for women only. The number will be 8534I99.

MONTHLY OPEN MEETING:
The next meeting will be at the Clockhouse Community Centre on Wednesday 5th June (see map below). All are welcome. From July the meetings will move to Monday nights,i.e. the first Monday in the month.

VOLUNTEER PROGRAMME:
In order to let people be more involved in the running of the centre and to help us with the ever increasing work load we are thinking of setting up a volunteer programme. Nothing has has been decided yet but we would be looking for people with some time, skills(printing typing,etc) and/or a willingnesss to help out in any way possible. So have a think and we will get back to you at a later date.



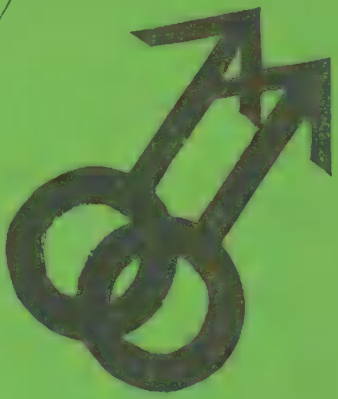
LESBIAN & GAY LINE

Greenwich

Want to chat ?

Information ?

Advice ?



7–10 pm

LESBIAN
Thursdays

GAY
Tuesdays

01-853-4199

LESBIAN & GAY LINE

Greenwich

Want to chat ?

Information ?

Advice ?

7–10 pm

LESBIAN
Thursdays

GAY
Tuesdays

01-853-4199

GOLDSMITHS'

Pride '85

GAY - DAY

JUNE: 20 THU

ORGANIZED BY:- GOLDSMITHS'

GAYSOC &

GREENWICH LESBIAN AND GAY RIGHTS GROUP

DAY: 11 → 1PM

2.30 → 6.00 **Goldsmiths' College Union Hall**

NOT Wheelchair accessible

WORKSHOPS/ DISCUSSIONS

EXHIBITION

EVE:

COFFEE BAR "Josephine"

DISCO

75p → LATE

Wheelchair access

7.30 - Pink Singers

'... diversity of lesbian & gay community.'

DIXON ROAD SE14

BUS: 53,177,21,36, BR/TUBE: NEW X

GREENWICH LESBIAN AND GAY RIGHTS GROUP

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NEWSLETTER - MAY/JUNE.

EVENTS ORGANISED BY GREENWICH LESBIAN AND GAY RIGHTS GROUP FOR GREENWICH FESTIVAL AND LESBIAN AND GAY PRIDE '85:

Greenwich Festival/Lesbian and Gay Pride '85

The following events have been organised by the Group and will be held at The Bell, 18 Haddo Street, Greenwich SE10:-

MAY 31st: An evening of jazz with Impromptu, a Women's Jazz Band.

JUNE 1st: Ransom & Oppenheimer - Their music 'is subtle & ultimately could sell if given the right push...ideas are well thought out, incisive and provocative'...Melody Maker.

JUNE 2nd: Consenting Adults in Public - lesbian and gay cabaret/ theatre group well known in the lesbian and gay community. They will be performing new material.

JUNE 7th: Parker and Klein - well known comediennes. With Systematic Disco.

JUNE 8th: Joanne Richler - singer and comedienne who appeared in Coming Out Ready or Not at The Albany in 1983.

JUNE 9th: Barry Honeycombe will present us with an evening of songs from the musicals.

JUNE 14th: Strange Language - a music/comedy women's duo plus Sleaze Sisters disco

JUNE 15th: Two Big Boys - up and coming gay men's band.They say that they perform 'psychedelic dance music' (!?).

JUNE 16th: Pink Singers - a very well known gay men's chorus who sing just about everything, plus Halfway to Paradise - hot from their big success at the Oval House.

ENTRANCE IS FREE. ALL LESBIANS AND GAY MEN ARE WELCOME.

THERE WILL ALSO BE RAFFLES AND PRIZES. PRIZES WILL BE DONATED BY THE BELL.

Lesbian and Gay Pride '85

The following events have been organised for Pride '85 alone.

Pride '85 is a celebration of the lesbian and gay community which was originally scheduled for a week, but owing to the pressure of events, now occupies the entire month of June.

This is the sixteenth year that it has been celebrated.

Pride '85 is an international event. There will be events all over Britain, not just in London.

20th JUNE: A day-long event at Goldsmith's College.

Co-organised by Goldsmith's College Gaysoc and Greenwich Lesbian and Gay Rights Group.

There will be stalls from various lesbian and gay groups and also workshop discussions on various topics.

In the evening there will be a disco and a performance by PINK SINGERS. This will be held in the STUDENTS UNION COFFEE SHOP. There will be a small door charge for the evening.

23rd JUNE: LESBIAN AND GAY YOUTH GET-TOGETHER

At: Greenwich Young People's Theatre, Burrage Rd, Plumstead.

A chance to meet other young lesbians and gays in a friendly atmosphere.

2pm - 5pm: Drop-in, meet others, make friends. Find out about what's happening locally. Also: Videos/Bookstall.

5pm: Get together to talk about setting up a Lesbian and Gay Youth Group locally.

7pm onwards: DISCO/SOCIAL with food and cabaret.

24th JUNE: LESBIAN STRENGTH BOP

At: Woolwich Public Hall

Time: 18.00hrs til Midnight.

Films: Comedy in Six Unnnatural Acts

Maidens in Uniform

Live Band: to be confirmed

DISCO : JOSEPHINE.

BAR

CRECHE.

26th JUNE: LESBIAN AND GAY EXTRAVAGANZA

At: Woolwich Public Hall

Time: 18.00hrs til Midnight.

FILM: THAT'S ENTERTAINMENT!

LIVE BAND: VILETTES...'the sound's ska, funk, reggae, pure pop, a wicked melange, and something quite original...' (Interview in GAY TIMES.

DISCO

Bar.

Creche.

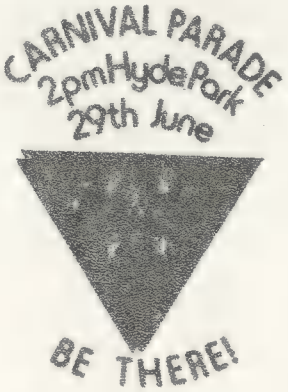
****

We shall also be attending the two Pride '85 celebrations in Central London:

22nd JUNE: LESBIAN CELEBRATION:HYDE PARK TO MALET STREET, U.L.U. STUDENT UNION BUILDING.

29th JUNE: LESBIAN AND GAY PRIDE CARNIVAL PARADE.

2pm HYDE PARK.



SURVEY OF POLICE RESPONSES TO CALLS

David has talked to the Police Commitee who agreed for us to met with the Council's Advisor re: police. At our meeting he proposed that we use the enclosed form as a way of collecting information about lesbians and gays experience with the police. If you have had any contact both positive or negative and if you have ever been in a situation in which it might have been appropriate for you to have contacted the police but decided for what ever reason to not call them,please complete the form and send it back to us. There is no need for you to give us your name but your postcode would be useful. Obviously the forms will be dealt with in the *strictest confidence. Thank you.*

TGWU/ACTSS.

Social workers who work for the Council have produced a petition calling upon the Council to support lesbians and gay men and to ake disciplinary action against Mr. Charles Maslin. We have therefore drawn up a similar petition for groups that are funded by the Council, in the non-statuary sector, which is being distributed at the moment.
Please read the letter enclosed and write your own versions.

GREENWICH LESBIAN AND GAY RIGHTS GROUP ANNUAL MEETING.

The staffing group in discussion with the workers has decided to call an annual meeting at which a mamagement commitee can be elected from the membership. Anyone who would like to be on this commitee could give us a ring,drop us a line or come to the meeting to nominate themselves. The proposed format would be twelve people,six women and six men, with four seats(2women,2men) reserved for 'ethnic minorities'.
The meeting will be at the Clockhouse Community Centre, Defiance walk, Woolwich SEI8.(Transport: British Rail from Charing Cross, to Woolwich Dockyard. Buses: I77,I80) on July Ist at 7.30.
We will also be organising a creche and transport if it is needed.

PUBLIC AIDS MEETING.

We have organised a public meeting to discuss AIDS and its effect on our lives. We will have a local gay doctor who will talk about the medical side,a representative from the Terrence Higgins Trust, one of us and a lesbian to talk about blood sisters. The meeting will be at the Clockhouse(see above for details) on Monday I7th of June at 8.00pm. We are notifying the press,all the local health authorities and centres. So we are hoping for a big meeting. Please come and bring lots of friends. See you there.

CHARLTON TRAINING CENTRE.

Charlton Training centre has been set up by a group of local people and organisations to provide training for people who normally have difficulty in government run centres: women,disabled people, ethnic minorities and lesbians and gays. In September they are starting two new courses:mechanics and sheet metal work. The pay is £60 a week. So if you are interested or know of anyone who would be contact: Charlton Training centre,Ferranti Close, Westminster Industrail Estate London SEI8. or ring 3I7 9636.

PREMISES PREMISES.

As you know we have been having trouble finding any premises that are suitable and within our budget. At the moment the four ofus are working in one small office above the Bell pub. We had a meeting with the Borough surveyors and they told us that the situation is not good. They have community groups on their books who have been looking longer than us and who are still 'homeless'. So as a purely temporary measure in order to give us more work space and some space to hold meetings,both formal and informal we have acquired the rest of the rooms on the same floor as the office. This gives us the space to have a completely separate women's room, a general meeting room with easy chairs and a good sized kitchen where people can drop in for cups of tea and snacks. So finally we will have a space which we can call our own! We will obviously use the side door at the pub so giving ourselves a separate entrance.
Now all we need is volunteers who have some time amd energy to help us decorate and furnish the rooms. So dont be shy or reticent give us a ring or drop in any lunch time and we can put you to work.

CANCELLED

ACTIVITISTS.

We had a successful first meeting at which we looked at the whole situation with the Council and Mr. Maslin. From that meeting we drew up the two model letters (enclosed). We would like to have another meeting in June to see how the campaign is progressing and to talk about our next steps. EVERYONE IS WELCOME. If you want to ask any questions about the whole affair, make plans or join in, please do come to the Bell on June 4th at 8.00pm.

GREENWICH FESTIVAL/LESBIAN AND GAY PRIDE.

June promises to be the best month so far in the history of GLGRG. We have organised nine nights at the Bell of entertainment. A meeting on AIDS. A stall at the festival at the Clockhouse for young lesbians and gay men. A whole day of events exhibitions and workshops at Goldsmiths-hopefully to be opened by the Mayor of Lewisham. A stall and workshop at the Greenfair. A Youth event with videos,drop-in and entertainment. And last but not least two spectacular evenings at Woolwich Town Hall to celebrate lesbian and gay pride. And of course groups of us will be going on the Lesbian Strength and Carnival celebrations in central London. So bring your friends and their friends. Meet old and new friends and people who you never knew they were .....!

GOLDSMITHS LESBIAN AND GAY DAY-20 JUNE.

Dirg and Geoff have been organising a day of events at Goldsmiths College,Lewisham Way,New Cross.(Buses;53,177, 36; Tube and British Rail). There will be a set of exhibitions about various lesbian and gay groups, stalls including us,the gay outdoor club,Gemma,Lespop. Workshops will happen throughtout the day discussing disability,policing ,coming out nd there will be a disco and a performance by the Pink Singers in the evening. The day is a response to alot of anti-lesbian and gay stickers and actions that some students at the college have done in the last few months so it is in solidarity with Goldsmiths Lesbian and gay soc. Drop in any time during the day and have a chat. See you there.

GREENWICH FESTIVAL.

As part of this years Greenwich Festival we have organised nine nights of entertainment at the Bell. Each weekend of the festival (31/1/2;7/8/9;14/15/16JUNE) we have booked different performers and cooked vegetarian food. Unfortuneately we have been unable to acquire a license for two o'clock as advertised in the festival programme,so the bar will be open till 12 whilst we are serving supper. The Friday evening will be women performers only,though there will be women on on most of the other nights as well. We have listed the acts in the diary so have a good look and treat yourselves to an evening out with supper and cabaret. Most events will start around 9/9.30,
During the Festival there will also be a stall focusing on young lesbians and gay men at the Clockhouse on Saturday 8th June.
On the 9th June there will be a gay outdoor walk starting from the Thames Barrier in Charlton at 10.ooam and following the Green Chain walk for about ten miles with a stop for lunch. So if you're sick of alcohol and smoke filled pubs and even if you are not get on your walking shoes and have a day out.

LESBIAN AND GAY PRIDE .

For lesbian and gay pride we have organised three events.
On 23rd June there will be a youth event at Greenwich Young People's theater Burrage Road Plumstead SE18. (Transport: Buses 53, 51 and a short walk from Woolwich; British Rail from Charing Cross to Woolwich Arsenal) It starts at 2.00 and will be a drop-in . In tthe coffee bar there will be a bockstall with free leaflets and publications,a vidoe(Framed Youth), tea and cakes. At 5.00pm there will be a discussion about setting up a youth group and at 7.00 in a larger room there will be a social.
On 24th June there will be a women only bop at the Town hall in Woolwich. There will be two films cabaret and disco.
On 26th June there will be a mixed lesbian and gay extravaganza, again in the Town hall, with the film "THAT'S ENTERTAINMENT" starting around 6,30 followed by the Vilettes a mixed dance band and disco. There will be food from the beginning so you can come around six eat with friends watch the movie and the band and then dance the night away.(well at least till 12.00 when the hall has to close).

GREEN FAIR

The South-East London Green Fair, 'An exploration and a celebration for Midsummer', is a two-day event split between Goldsmith's College on Saturday 22nd and Fordham Park on Sunday June 23rd. The first day which is mostly indoors, will be a mixture of workshops, discussion groups and public speakers.

Geoff attended a meeting of the organising committee to talk about the needs of lesbians and gay men (yes, we had been forgotten on the programme!) and we will now be running a stall and a workshop. If you can make it, come along and take part. It should be a really interesting event, where we should be able to forge links with other groups.

GREEN FAIR *** GREEN FAIR *** GREEN FAIR *** GREEN FAIR ***

TIME	enquiries	typing	PR
10 - 12	X		
12 - 2			X
2 - 4		X	
4 - 6		X	

The South East London Green Fair, a conference/gathering of local greens, environmentalists and human rights organisations, is taking place on 22nd and 23rd June. We are looking for people to help staff the office in Goldsmith's Students' Union on the Saturday, and possibly for similar help on the Sunday. The three categories of workers needed are typists, and people to deal with enquiries by phone or in person, and people to do Public Relations and liaison with speakers and workshop leaders. The box timetable shows the two hours periods of work for the Saturday, X marks the times we already have volunteers for. If you would like to help please ring 318 6628 and speak to Barbara Jane.

LIBRARY EXHIBITION

The library exhibition starts on June 24th at Greenwich Library. It will stay there for three weeks and then move on to Eltham and Plumstead. If you would like to help in any way, please get in touch with the office. We will need to staff it if we are to be able to talk with people about the issues.

WORKERS EDUCATIONAL ASSOCIATION

Geoff attended the AGM of the Greenwich/Lewisham Branch and is now a member of the Committee. The WEA is interested in funding a course on lesbian and gay issues if we would like to organise one. It was suggested that one could start in early '86. Does anyone have any ideas for such a course?

PEACE NEWS

Peace News would like people to review books about lesbians and gay men. If you write one, send it to: Peace News, 8 Elm Avenue, NOTTINGHAM.

If you have any news about lesbian/gay issues, send that too to PN.

OPEN MEETING

The next Open Meeting will be on 5th June, 8.00pm, The Clockhouse, Defiance Walk, SE18. The venue is wheelchair accessible.

We need to talk about the use of the premises at The Bell: what we want to do with the extra rooms we now have. Please bring ideas with you!!

Transport: Bus - 177, 180.
BR - Woolwich Dockyard.

We also need to talk about the AGM and the proposals put forward by Staff Group regarding the elections etc.

GREENWICH LESBIAN AND GAY RIGHTS GROUP

Workers: Margaret Honey
Gill King
Geoff Hardy
David Simpson

18 Haddo Street
Greenwich
London SE10 9RN
01-853 5206

16th May '85

Dear Friends,

As you are probably aware, the Greenwich Branch of ACTSS/TGWU has launched an attack upon the rights of lesbians and gay men. They have instructed their membership to hinder and block the passage of the Lesbian and Gay Charter in the Council. They have also called for the cessation of funding for the project, which, in effect, is calling for the redundancies of us as workers.

We cannot fight this attack on our own - we need your help. It is also important that both the Council and the Greenwich ACTSS branch see that the whole community is concerned about the rights of lesbians and gay men.

Below are model letters that we would like you to plagiarise and send to: Charles Maslin, Secretary ACTSS 1257, 2 Galsworthy Crescent, Merriman Road, London SE3; Cllr. J. Austin-Walker, Town Hall, Wellington St, SE18. Copies to our office please.

There is also a model motion that we would like you to amend and put to your union branch. If you are a member of ACTSS, please add a sentence asking National Executive to take action regarding the actions of the Greenwich Branch.

Letter:

' The workers at are writing to express our disgust at your letter to John Austin-Walker, and your comments to the press in relation to the Charter for Lesbian and Gay Rights.

We would like to make the following points:

1) You appear to base your opposition to the Charter on the grounds of 'public opinion'. Firstly, there is no evidence that the majority of people support discrimination at work. Secondly, 'public opinion' as history has shown is certainly not always the best means for deciding social policy. In Germany, in the 1930's, 'public opinion' about the Jewish people, Gypsies, homosexuals and mentally-handicapped people allowed the rise to power of a regime which murdered over six million people and destroyed the lives of millions more.

If you agree that 'public opinion' is always right, then presumably you would have to support the events that followed?

2) What makes you assume that all of your members are heterosexual? Given your prejudices, it seems unlikely that your lesbian and gay members would tell you otherwise.

3) You assume that the Charter is only of concern to lesbians and gay men, that heterosexuals would not see the issues as relevant to them. This is certainly not the case. The freedom of all people to express their own sexuality in an open, honest and healthy manner without guilt, repression, ignorance and fear, must inevitably be linked with the struggle of lesbians and gay men against mindless bigotry and discrimination.

4) As members of , we are horrified that members of a union can call for the redundancies of other workers.

5) If you are concerned about the harmful effect of some forms of sexual behaviour, then we suggest that you look in the right place, which is the overwhelmingly heterosexual behaviour of many adult men who sexually abuse and assualt women and children and who sexually harass many women daily in the workplace.

We ask you to re-read the Charter, to understand fully the reasons why it is necessary and then to withdraw your rejection of it.

Yours ,

Motion:

'This Branch supports the consideration of the Charter for Lesbian and Gay Rights by the Council as an essential step in eradicating discrimination against lesbians and gay men in the Borough.

We deplore the fact that TGWU/ACTSS are effectively calling for the sacking of other trade union members as contrary to fundamental trade union principles.

This Branch calls on the Council to continue to pursue it's considerations of the proposals in the Charter as Council policy.

This Branch will continue to support any of it's members who are discriminated against in their work on the grounds of sexual preference.'

Dear Cllr. John Austin-Walker,

It has come to our notice that Charles Maslin, a Senior Recruitment Officer for Social Services in Greenwich, has made some extremely anti-lesbian/gay public statements:

(a) 'Council Policy should reflect that heterosexism is the social norm' (internal newsletter TGWU/ACTSS, co-signed with B. Corbett).

(b) 'occupations such as Child Care, Public Convenience Workers and Parks etc, could be areas of concern'. (as above).

(c) ' Yes I am personally prejudiced and happen to believe that homosexuality is perverted', (Mercury, April '85).

We are aware that Greenwich Council operates an Equal Opportunities policy that states:

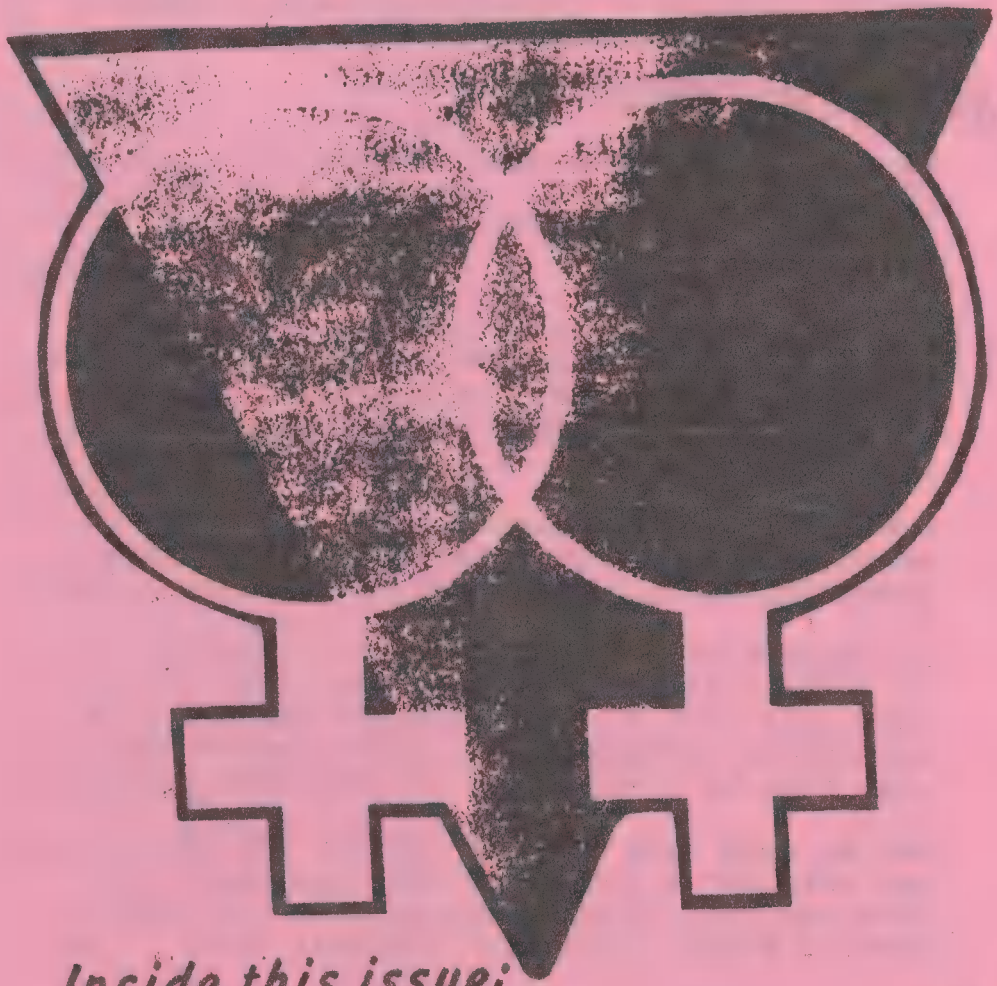
'The Council will:

> 'act to eliminate discrimination and employment disadvantage experienced by lesbians and gay men, both in terms of it's own emlpoyment practice and in influencing outside employers and grant-aided organisations...
>
> 'accept that good policy will not end heterosexism and will seek to change attitudes by providing facilities and resources to increase awareness of heterosexism...
>
> ' ensure that it's employees will not discriminate in their dealings with the public who are lesbians and gay men.
>
> ' confront attacks on the civil liberties of lesbians and gay men.'

In view of the above statements, which call upon the Council to <u>actively</u> oppose discrimination, heterosexism and encourage non-discriminatory practices regarding employment, it is clear that Charles Maslin is acting in contravention of the said policy and we call upon the Council to consider ways in which he could be called upon to publicly retract his statements.

Newsletter of....

GREENWICH LESBIAN AND GAY RIGHTS GROUP



Inside this issue:

WHAT'S ON

'COTTAGING'?

WE NEED 260 PEOPLE OVER THE NEXT MONTH

FIRST THE QUESTIONS...

Can you put 3 hours aside in the next 6 weeks?
-with friends if you like.
Can you travel to a central London location?
-we'll pay your fares.

NOW THE ANSWERS...

We need about 260 people to come and watch TV or listen to the radio and fill in a log about how gay men and lesbians are portrayed in the programmes.

A one-day conference between gay and lesbian groups and delegates from the BBC and the IBA is being arranged for the summer. In it we'll be looking for an improvement in the way lesbians and gay men are portrayed in the media.

A research report about current practices in broadcasting will be submitted to the conference, and it will later be published as a book.

The report will be based on the TV and radio programmes transmitted in a week -784 hours- and we'll need to keep track of all the references to homosexuality. These references will then be assessed by two research workers.

But we need your help to monitor the programmes and make out a log about what you heard and what you saw. We need you to make one commitment of three hours over the next month or so.

You can get further information from:

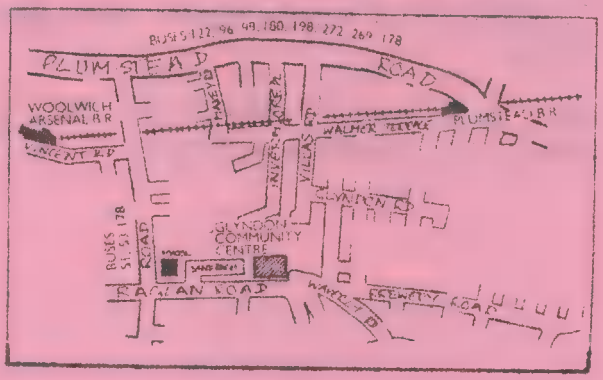
GAY SWITCHBOARD - 837 7324 - Anytime.

ASK ABOUT THE GAYS IN BROADCASTING PROJECT.

COME AND JOIN US

As a celebration of Council services a one day festival of fun, music, games, food, stunts, tricks and entertainment for everybody. Greenwich Council will be holding its Fun Day on Saturday July 27th from 1pm-6pm at Glyndon Community Centre, Raglan Rd.,SE18.

A main attraction, as last year, will be the Greenwich Lesbian and Gay Rights Group Stall! Come and see us/come and help us to staff the stall. Come to support the Council that funds us and other services. Take part in this fun day to promote all Greenwich services - the Council, GLC, ILEA, Health Service and Voluntary Groups.



LONDON LESBIAN AND GAY CENTRE

Every Thursday: 8.00-Midnight.
Smokeless-Zone disco: lesbian only.
Free!

Fri. Aug. 2nd, and every Fri, 8.30-10.30pm.
SPLITZ group for members of failed relationships.

Sun. Aug. 4th: 5.00-7.00:Cypriot/Hellenic music and song by Andreas Demitriou.
Benefit for Gays the Word/Centre.

From August 6th: EXHIBIT TWO - second in series of new works by lesbian/gay artists.
Jenny Mc Kay and Fin Donnelly display a selection of photographic studies.

31st July, 8.00pm: Disco/benefit for SM Gays/Dykes. Basement.

Tues. Aug. 6th, 6.00-12.00, Benefit Disco for Gays and Lesbians against Imperialism and Racism.

Sun. Aug. 18th, 3.00-7.00: MAD HATTERS TEA PARTY. Center Benefit. Entry £2.oo, includes set tea. Fancy dress: come as a character from Alice in Wonderland. FAY PRESTO performing.

Tues. Aug 20th, 7.30-12.00. Disco Benefit London Gay Teenage Group.

ONLY ONE COMPLAINT...

The library exhibition spent two weeks at West Greenwich. It seems to have been fairly well-received - there was only one complaint which was sorted out in conversation with the librarian.

It is now at Eltham, situated in Eltham High Street. We are staffing it on Thursday mornings in order to deal with any comments from the public. If you have any time to spare do come and help us out/go to see the exhibition and make positive comments to the assistants.

On 5th August it will move to Plumstead.

LESBIAN & GAY LINE

Greenwich

01-853-4199

The phoneline is getting more callers. They are also organising a one day conference on Sexuality in October (more on that in the next newsletter). The mixed night is fairly well staffed, but more women are needed for the Thursday nights. Phone them if you are interested:

Tuesdays: Mixed - 7-10pm
Thursdays: Lesbian - 7-10pm

=++o*-2 cago...

John Austin-Walker wrote to say that the Majority Group in the Council, having received discussion papers from some of the committees, has decided to set up a working group to draw up a draft interim statement. The Working Group consists of five members, only one of whom is gay. We were invited to send in a submission!

Our response was that we were angry at this decision and that we considered the Draft Charter to be our submission. If they intend to proceed with the committee then we wish to meet with them.

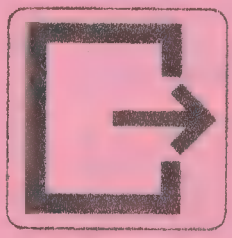
Most of the events held during June were reasonably well-attended, but we were very short on numbers at the two held in Woolwich Public Hall - which was a shame as they were very enjoyable.

We went on the Carnival which was a really enjoyable occasion and, as you will have heard (unless you rely on the national press), extremely well-attended. We had a stall at Jubilee Gardens which attracted a lot of interest and a few new members.

The stall at the Green Fair on 21st/June was well patronised. The St John's Ambulance came to chat and take some leaflets and we spoke to a lot of people, straight and lesbian/gay. The workshop was not well-attended, but Kate and Geoff took the opportunity to address all areas of the festival about lesbian/gay issues.

ACTSS/TGWU have helped us enormously in publishing their prejudices in letter form in ACTSS QUARTERLY which is distributed to all branches. There has already been a response from ACTSS Social Action Branch in Manchester and enquiries from others.

We have also received letters/motions of support from: Westminster Nalgo, ACTSS/TGWU in Southwark, City of Manchester, TGWU Coops Branch in East London and a member of the NUJ. These also wrote to John Austin-Walker and Charles Maslin. Have you written yet?

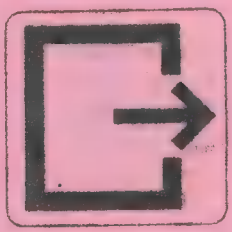


=++0*-2 st√○a√k...

Things seem to have started to roll: we have been contacted by quite a few new people during the past weeks. We are also getting more enquiries from 'non-lesbian/gay' organisations.

A new lesbian/gay pub is opening in New Cross- the Goldsmiths Tavern, New Cross Road. There will be mixed space on the ground floor (managed by Russell & Mike late of The Bell) and women-only space on the first floor run by Pat and Kate. This opens on 19th August.

SORRY! TYPIST'S FINGER FORGOT TO PRESS 'UPPER CASE'.. THE ABOVE HEADINGS SHOULD BE 'LOOKING BACK' AND 'LOOKING FORWARD'



TUESDAYS

Women's Night Out!

At: Clockhouse Community Centre, off Leda Rd, Woolwich Church Street, Woolwich.

Every Tuesday, 7-11pm.
Women-Only Disco/Mixed Bar Opposite.
Full disabled access.
50p entry.

Bus: 177, 180.

30TH.JULY

Greenwich Lesbian and Gay Youth Group:

Tuesday 30th July, 7.00, Volunteer Bureau, Macbean Centre, Macbean Street, Woolwich (Fully wheelchair-accessible). FREE.

We are a new group of young lesbians and gays aiming to organise social and political activities and provide a focal point for young lesbians and gays to come together and make a few friends.

Our initial meetings are monthly, but we hope to have regular weekly meetings as soon as we find permanent home.

31ST.JULY

CROWD (Campaign for the Right of Assembly & Dissent) meeting about the Governments White Paper on PUBLIC ORDER:

Holborn Library Hall, Theobalds Rd, WC1.

Wed. 31st July, 6,30pm

No platform windbags: everyone is invited to speak for a few minutes from the floor.

5TH.AUGUST

Open Meeting

5th August, 8.00, Clockhouse (Greenwich Room)
Wheelchair Accessible.
Vibrant, informative and interesting!
All welcome.

PLUS..

Mixed Discos at The Clockhouse:

13th September/11th October, 7.30.

Wheelchair accessible.
Bus: 180, 177.

Sat. Sept. 21st:

FRANK CHICKENS at: Borough Hall, Royal Hill, Greenwich, 8.00, Mixed.
3.50/2.50.

LETTER PAGE

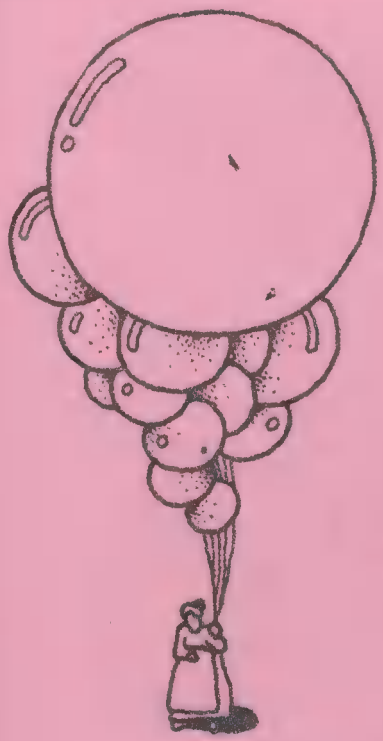
Dear GLGRG,

As a gay man living in Greenwich, I am concerned with the apparent tolerance towards 'cottaging' that exists in the local gay community. I am, of course, opposed to entrapment by 'Pretty Police' and the harassment of gays wherever it takes place, but I don't see why this revulsion at licenced homophobia should entail a positive or active acceptance of random, faceless sex in public toilets as an 'ok thing'.

Surely the effort of coming out and trying to live an open life as a gay man can only be compromised by the sordid, depersonalised relationships and prostitution that cottage sex involves. Historically, the cottages may have been necessary as an illicit outlet for our sexuality - they are now a degrading and physically dangerous anachronism. I hope that the GLGRG will see part of its job as helping the development of a whole range of social facilities for gays (and lesbians) in the Borough where we can meet without fear or shame.

Paddy, Blackheath.

(I resent some of the sexual contacts that I have being described as 'sordid' or 'depersonalised' - Geoff, typist).



LOOK OUT FOR THE PINK BALLOONS IN GREENWICH PARK

— COME AND JOIN US FOR A PICNIC ON

SUNDAY 18 AUGUST

— telephone Gill for further details. 853 5206

At the AGM a new Management Committee was elected. The new members are: Wendy Laird, Kate Brown, Pat Van-Vliet, Susan Spencer-Deeks, Raman Rai, Paddy Hughes, Mike Giddings, Alex Smith, Alan Parkinson.

Our thanks to Robert for his work on the old committee.

There are still places available for:

Two Black/Brown lesbians
One Black/Brown Gay man

Cooptions are invited from:

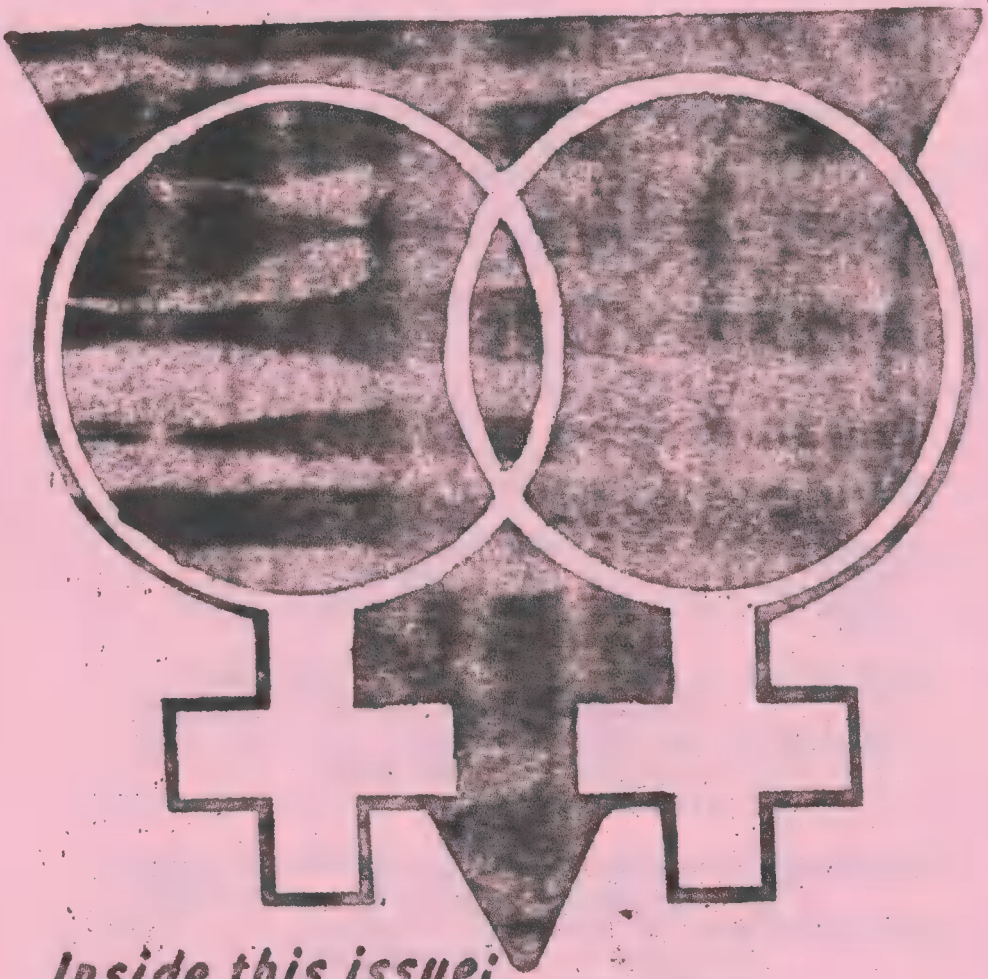
Older lesbians/gay men.
Lesbian/gay youth.
Lesbians/gays with disabilities.

Over the summer we have a volunteer helping us out in the office. His name is Gerald. We would like to thank him for giving us his time.

P.S. Our thanks too for his help in producing this newsletter

Newsletter of....

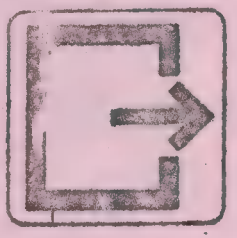
GREENWICH LESBIAN AND GAY RIGHTS GROUP



Inside this issue:

WHAT'S ON

Left Alive?



WHERE TO NOW?

The Open Meeting on September 2nd will be the forum to discuss strategy with regards to where we go from here.

Suggestions from a meeting between workers and management committee were that we should be producing a higher profile/high-powered publicity.

The above meeting also discussed the following:

<u>What has gone before</u>:

Other organisations in the Borough speak very highly of the group and acknowledge a high profile.

<u>Successes</u>: women's evenings at The Bell
campaigning/education - library exhibition, unions, Council.
homeless persons work
signing course

<u>Problems</u>: the search continues for premises
problems caused by the geographical position of the Bell office
need to be more mobile
neither workers or management committee consolidated as a team
imbalance in the focus of the work
Need to look at race, class and disabilities.

Aims and Objectives:

- Work more as a team
- increased visibility and access to the group: develop an 'instant stall'/meet with other groups
- awareness raising of lesbian and gay issues within the community
- identifying the needs and wants of all local lesbians and gay men
- find appropriate meeting places for all our different activities.

HELP LINES

LESBIAN AND GAY LINE GREENWICH - 853 4199

Tuesdays: Mixed, 7-10pm
Thursdays: Lesbian, 7-10pm.

LGYM PHONELINE: 317 9690

Mon/Wed/Fri: 6pm-9pm
Sat/Sun: 3-6pm.

TERENCE HIGGINS TRUST: 278 8745

Every day - 7-10pm

We have received no letters this issue. Please send us your comments/views for next issue.

Also, if you'd like to write an article for the newsletter, we'll be more than happy to include it.

Published by: Greenwich Lesbian and Gay Rights Group, 18 Haddo Street, Greenwich, London, SE10 9RN. Tel: 853 5206

PUT YOURSELF FORWARD...

Following suggestions from previous meetings, we are setting up sub-groups to deal with particular areas of the group's work. So... if you are interested in one of the following, please either give us a ring at the office (853 5206) or put yourself forward at the Open Meeting on Sept. 2nd: Publicity/Newsletter/ Public displays and stalls.

SELF DEFENCE

As in a past newsletter, we are proud to announce the setting up of a self-defence group. We have asked the tutor of the long standing courses on Battersea to come over to our side of South London and run a course just for us!

The group will start at the end of September in a local community centre. There will be a small registration fee and class fee, but the tutor is willing to reduce the charge for people on low income/unwaged. In order for the course to start we will need at least a dozen people.

David will have the final details at the open meeting on September 2nd, so come to the meeting, or give the office a ring on: 853 5206.

COUNSELLING

There will be an introductory evening to Re-evaluation Co-Counselling for gay men at the beginning of October.

Counselling is a way of learning how to listen to people so that you can help them more effectively - and it is co - counselling so someone will be doing the same for you!

Further details from David on: 853 5206. (please leave your name and tel. number on the ansafone and he'll ring you back)

SMASH STEREOTYPES

LEFT ALIVE!

LEFT ALIVE! A DAY OF WORKSHOPS ORGANISED BY the Communist Party. At the LEE CENTRE it has a very interesting set of workshops, including:

Gays and Censorship: The Gays The Word Case. Speaker: Jonathan Cutbill(a director of GTW and one of the defendants).

Women and Choices: two young women, a lesbian who is having A.I.D., and an older woman talking about choices made in her life and choices still to make.

Peace: Sally Davidson and Peter Tatchell (to be confirmed).

Reds and Greens: Socialism and Ecology. Includes speaker from Namibia Campaign (Canuc).

Racism, Education, Social Security Reviews and many more.

Details: Maggie Martin, 639 2007.

TERRENCE HIGGINS TRUST

The Terrence Higgins Trust is looking for people who have therapeutic and/or counselling/social work experience to help run support groups for persons diagnosed as HTLV-3 Antibody Positive. If you are interested please contact the Trust as soon as possible (2788745).

GERU

GREENWICH COMMUNITY EDUCATION UNIT are now at New Charlton Community Association, Maryon Road, Charlton, SE7 on THURSDAYS from 1.00-3.00pm.

They have a free creche while sessions are running on: Training, Getting a job, Setting up a Coop, Basic English, Basic Maths, English as a second language, Relaxation, Health, Women's Issues and Many More.

New Members are welcome to join any Thursday or phone 311 0522.

FUNDAY

The Funday at Raglan Community Centre in July enjoyed good weather despite the clouds at the start and the weather we've seen since! Quite a few people were aware that we were there, although not so many came up to the stall. However it was the first time that the area has seen an openly gay/lesbian stall.

PICNIC

The picnic at Greenwich Park: even though it rained on and off, we had a good turn-out, including some new people. Thankyou to all those who brought food - loved the profiteroles and the lesbian and gay dogs!

CLASSES

Greenwich/Lewisham Workers Educational Association have agreed to fund a course on lesbian and gay issues. Run by us, it will happen early in 1986. If there is anything that you would like to see included, drop a line to the office.

GAY OUTDOOR CLUB

An altermative to the pub and club scene.
Here are a few of the GOC events within striking distance of London...

SWIMMING

Every Mondaythere is a GOC swim at the Oasis Pool,Shafterbury Avenue 6-7 p.m. It ia a public session but all gays are welcome. Meet at 7p.m. in the foyer for a meal at local Pizza place. More info from Rob 01-368 9863,or from Mike 01-854 8392.

goslings - an affiliated GOC group - meet for swims on Second and FOURTH Thursday in the month. Oasis pool for 8.05 sharp. private hire of the pool. Entry 70p.

CYCLING

A cycle run is planned in the Henley area. Sunday 22 Sept. More details-Mike 854 8392

A WEEKEND IN THE COTSWOLDS 13-15 SEPT A camping weekend has been arranged at Leedons Caravan and Camping Park,Broadway. further details from Mike 854 8392. Mike has spare tents,and sleeping bags etc.to lend. also,bed and breakfast details for those who don't fancy camping (it really must stop raining by then,though!) Daily walks and cycling trips planned.

WALKING

SUNDAY 8 SEPT - Come and walk part of the London Country Way. Borough Green-Sevenoaks Meet at Borough Green station at 10.45 (take train from Victoria 0947. Buy day return to Borough Green.

SUNDAY 15 SEPT. Walks in Essex and Wantage areas. Further details from Mike.

ontact Mike on 854 8392 for full details of all GOC activites.

Diary of Events

GOLDSMITHS TAVERN

The Goldsmiths Tavern onthe New Cross Road (corner with Laurie Grove) has been completely refurbished and has reopened as a gay pub. Among the bar staff are mike and Russell from the Bell and Gerald who helped out in the office.There is a large disco room for the weekends and two other bars.Women's night on Wednesday's (see advert).

STEP BACK

Monday nights at the Dover Castle (8 deptford Broadway) has a new disco called STEP BACK, an evening of nostalgia with music from the thirties to the eighties run by Stack'em Sisters. Admission free. All lesbians and gay men welcome.

NALGO

On Wednesday 4th September at 1.00pm on the 8th floor of Riverside House there will be the regular meeting of the NALGO GAY MEN'S GROUP. We will be looking at the latest draft constitution. Geoff will give a report back on the CHE conference.

BRANDY'S

MONDAYS, 8-12pm, at The Crypt, Deptford High St: Brandy's- Women Only.

Sept 2

OPEN MEETING, CLOCKHOUSE COMMUNITY CENTRE, Leda Road, Woolwich Church Street, SE18, 8.00. Full disabled access, transport available, ring office for details: 853 5206. Bus: 177, 180.

Sept 11

GROUP SOCIAL, at Bill Murphy's, 61a Benares Rd, Plumstead, SE18. From 7.30, all welcome.

Sept 13

DISCO, CLOCKHOUSE COMMUNITY CENTRE, Leda Rd, Woolwich Church Street, SE18. Full disabled access, transport available, ring office for details: 853 5206. Bus: 177, 180.

Sept 14

PEOPLE'S FESTIVAL, CUTTY SARK GARDENS, Greenwich, SE10. Noon onwards.

We have a stall so come and see us/help to staff it. Should be busy as this is a popular tourist area.

Oct 11

DISCO, CLOCKHOUSE COMMUNITY CENTRE, Leda Road, Woolwich Church Street, SE18. Full disabled access, transport available, ring office for details: 853 5206. Bus: 177, 180.

Lesbian and Gay Women's Club

WEDNESDAY

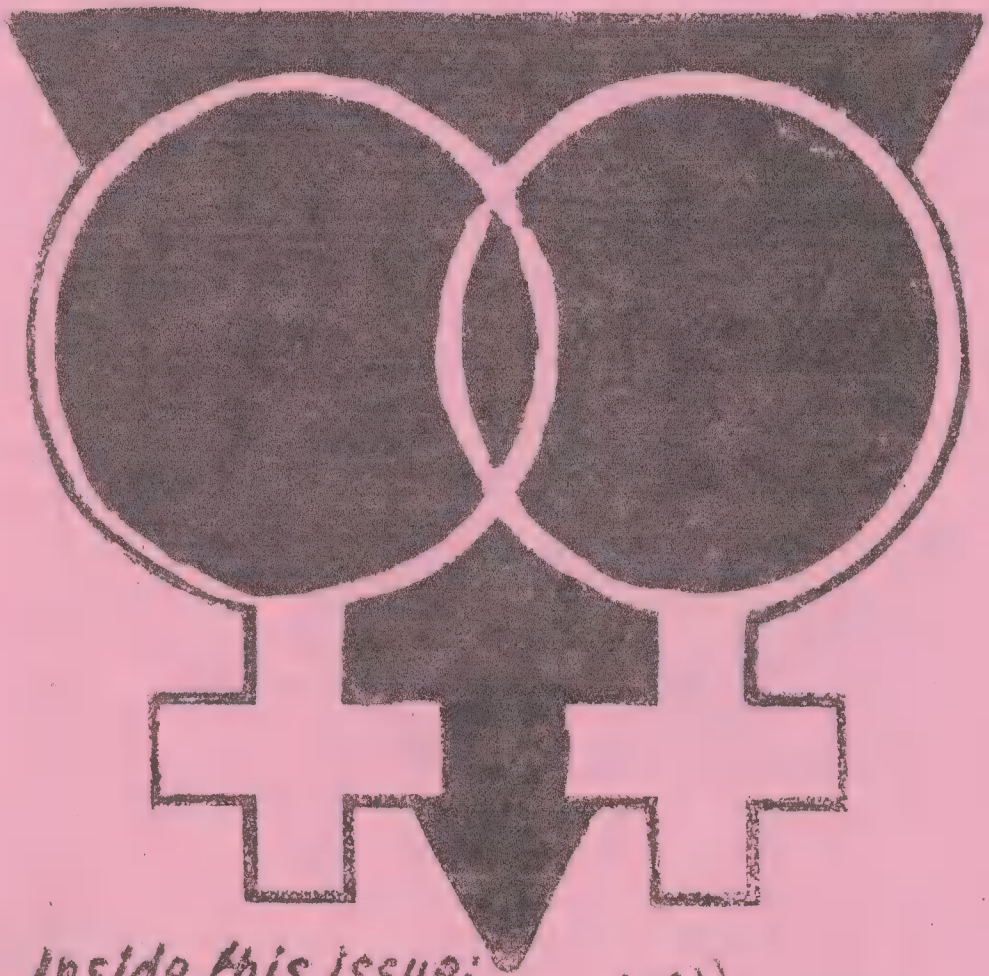
8 p.m till Midnight

<u>starting Date</u>
21st August 85

"ELEANOR'S"
GOLDSMITHS TAVERN
NEW CROSS ROAD
NEW CROSS
SE 14

Newsletter of....

GREENWICH LESBIAN AND GAY RIGHTS GROUP



Inside this issue:

WHAT'S ON :- Racism Awareness Training

WHERE TO NOW?

At the open meeting there was a report-back on the Staff/Management committee discussion day on future strategy for the group. It was agreed that in general there should be more input from the membership so that the initiatives are not always worker led or worker serviced.

Following small discussion groups, the following suggestions were put forward for future action:-

a. Next Management C'tee to discuss future strategy and report to Open Meeting in October.

b. London Lesbian and Gay Centre M.C. member to be asked to speak about the role of M.C. with our M.C.

c. Greenwich Council: Need to ensure that lesbian and gay rights are fully covered in the next Labour Party manifesto; need to push for an Equal Opportunities Unit, including lesbian and gay workers, as part of the Council's service. Links between GLGRG and councillors to be fostered.

d. Priority to be given to finding alternative funding for the Group.

e. Group's publicity to be less 'campaigning' oriented.

f. Speakers from Manchester, including councillors, to be invited for abig event in two months time. LBG councillors to be invited to hear what can be done by a Labour Authority when they put their money where their mouth is!

g. Management Commitee to produce a statement of the aims and objectives of the group and list of achievments, to be used as a basis for propaganda aimed at the council.

h. Need for more basic publicity & outreach.

WORKING GROUPS

Next year's ratecapping may well threaten our grant/ability to employ paid workers. The establishment of groups to cover various tasks is essential.

It was agreed to form four groups initially and volunteers are called for:

Newsletter production
Publicity
Fundraising
Stall for festivals etc

If you are interested, please call the office: 853 5206.

LESBIAN MOTHERS GROUP/MALE VOLUNTEERS WANTED

South London Lesbian Mothers Group have made a request for male volunteers to run a creche at their monthly meetings. Small amount of money available. An opportunity for involvement with children/childcare. First meeting on 29th September, 2-5.00pm at Amanda's 6a Seymour Terrace, off Seymour Villas, Anerley, SE20.

Lesbians without children, but interested, are welcome too.

RACISM AWARENESS TRAING

RACISM AWARENESS TRAINING

Would you be interested in undergoing training to become a racism awareness consultant in your workplace or organisation?

If so, we are hoping to have Linda King and Associates run a course for us.

Starting in Nov/Dec 1985, it would entail a four day intensive experiential workshop initially, based on research from interviews with all those taking part. This would be followed by three weekend workshops (Fri, Sat, Sun) spaced over a three month period in order to develop awareness of training and form a support network within the trainers.

The course will be held in Greenwich and cost £100 per individual/organisation.

The course will be mixed, black/white, and the maximum number attending is 20.

If interested, please contact Maggie on 853 5206. The money needs to be with us three weeks before the start of the course, so please get in touch with me/your organisation asap in order to secure a place.

The venue is yet to be confirmed, but will be accessible to wheelchair users.

NATURAL THERAPY

A new natural therapy centre will be opening this month in New Cross. It operates sliding scales for payments and offers acupuncture, osteopathy, shiatsu and massage/reflexology.

You can either phone Geoff at the office for details, or the Centre direct:

NEW CROSS NATURAL THERAPY CENTRE, 309-311 New Cross Rd, SE14. Tel: 469 0858.

FAMILY LINK

Family Link are looking for a part-time coordinator. Salary: £5922 + London Weighting, Pro-Rata, 8 hrs pw.

This voluntary group links families who have a disabled child with suitable volunteers.

They need an enthusiastic and energetic coordinator to help run and develop the service.

Contact: Mr D O'Hara, Goldie Leigh, Lodge Hill, Abbey Wood SE2. Tel: 311 3370.

Closing date: 4th October.

JUMBLE SALE

In aid of the debts occured by the Green Fair.
2.00pm, October 5th, Lochaber Hall, Manor Lane Terrace, SE13.

COUNCIL

The Council's ad-hoc committee is meeting at the moment to re-write the GLC Charter in order to make it more relevant to Greenwich. Councillor Tim Barnett has said that along with the Charter he will be proposing that the Council should appoint a lesbian and a gay man as Equal Opportunity workers and set up a sub-committee. We will be supporting these proposals all the way! We are waiting on the committee to invite us to a long overdue meeting. More later!

ANYONE WANT A DOG?

Free to good home - lovely spayed lurcher bitch. Half greyhound, bit alsation, rest anybody's guess! Too big and vigorous for present owners. Very affectionate and lovable.

Needs a home where she can get more exercise than we have time to give her.

Ring Cathie/Tony on 318 4763.

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SELF DEFENCE

SELF DEFENCE GROUP STARTING

Good news! The self-defence group will start on October 3rd at 7.30 till 9.30, Charlton Training Centre, Ferranti Close, Westminster Industrial Estate, Charlton, SE7, in the canteen.

It is open to gay men and any woman whether lesbian or not. There is a registration fee of £5 and a small charge each evening (this will depend on umbers but should be no more than £2 for waged and much smaller for unwaged).

Come in comfortable clothing. There will be tea and biscuits at the end of the class.

The course has been devised by the instructor who is a qualified teacher of two forms of martial arts and has taught these courses since 1981.

If you have any questions do ring the office on 853 5206. Otherwise see you on the 3rd October.

ELEANORS DISCO - GOLDSMITHS TAVERN,NEW CROSS.

Bad news Im afraid the Wednesday Womens Disco has folded, and will no longer be open. This to staff problems between the lesbians on the Women Only Disco and the gay men involved in the running of the pub. Comiserations to Kate and Pat, on all the effort on thier part to se setting the night up. Only this week it got aw a write up in Out in The City, in Capital Gay!

OPEN MEETINGS.

Lesbian Employment Rights is holding a series of open meetings covering topics such as:

Lesbians and employment
Heterosexism/anti-lesbianism at work
Lesbians as employers
Trade Unions
Equal Oppurtunity Policies
GLC abolition and the working future
.....and more

The first meeting is on Mon.30th September, 7pm at the above adress. Ideas for discussion topics are welcome. Lesbians only.
ADRESS- Room 203, Southbank House, Black Prince Rd.
London SEI 7SJ

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WOMEN'S NIGHT OUT - ALBANY

The Women's Night Out starts back on the 23rd of September and not on the I6th September. This terms classes will include Hair Plaiting for beginners; Singing and Percussion; Black Women's Writing Workshop; Dance and Movement; Dressmaking and Self Defence. Also Women's Discussion and Support Group which used to be called Women's studies starts this term and welcomes new members.

The fee for the above classes is £I.00, except for Self Defence, Women's Discussion & Support Group and Dressmaking; please contact the tutor for these classes for information regarding fee's. Classes held at the Albany, Douglas Way London, SE8. Telephone:- 692 023I

..... CO-COUNSELLING .....

FUNDAMENTALS CLASS IN RE-EVALUATION.
CO-COUNSELLING.

Taught by Linda Edwards, assisted by Wynne Mac Gregor and Catherine Maguire.
Learn listening skills, Develop your ability to lead in the world, come and play games, Get close to other people.
Introductory evening on the 30th September 800p then 8 Mondayevenings and one day.
To be held at Basement Flat, 27 Montague Avenue Brockley, SE4. Contact Linda 69I 54I9 or Wynne on 76I 6493. Men especially welcome.

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COURSES FOR WOMEN TRADE UNIONISTS. (continued after LGYM article)
SEPTEMBER- DECEMBER I985.

The TUC Regional Education Service regularly puts on courses specially for women trade unionists. They are run by women tutors and are friendly and informal.
*If you want to get more confident about hai...

LETTER FROM LGYM

In a society that tries to shove heterosexuality down our throats, lesbian and gay young people get a particularly hard deal. You may be able to remember how isolated you felt when you were younger, with no-one to talk with about your sexuality, let alone being able to do anything about it.

The Lesbian and Gay Youth Movement, or LGYM, helps provide a alternative to compulsory heterosexuality for young people. We're open to lesbian, gay and bisexual people under 26 and we've over 500 members throughout the country.

LGYM provides support and advice for a lot of young people. Our services include a penfriend scheme, a phoneline (operated 5 days a week), and the 'Lesbian and Gay Youth Magazine'. Our events include a Spring Festival and Summer Camp. In London we've started a social group for young people and a monthly disco (both are held at the London Lesbian and Gay Centre). This year we are also having a Winter Festival In Nottingham.

We are also a political group working for youth liberation as well as lesbian and gay liberation. This may explain why the GLC has each year turned down our grant application: we have no lower age limit and no paid adult 'youth workers'.

We do obtain money from our members, but charge very little as most of our members are unemployed or financially dependant on their parents.

LGYM has never found it easy to survive on the money coming in, but with our increased services and costs, we are facing a major crisis.

We hope that you can help us to help ourselves, by giving us some money. LGYM is self run, by

unpaid volunteers, so your money will go directly into providing services for our members, and publicity so that we can help the lesbian and gay young people who do not yet know that we exist.

Please send a cheque made payable to LGYM for whatever you can afford. Our address is: LGYM, BM GYM, WC1N 3XX.

If you are under 26 then you are welcome to join us.

If you are over 26 then you can join the 'Friends of LGYM', which will entitle you to a years subscription to the magazine and the 'Friends of LGYM' newsletter. For more info, please write, or phone us: 317 9690.

Yours in the struggle for lesbian, gay and youth liberation,

Begging politely for help,

With lesbian and gay love,

LGYM X

DOVER CASTLE

ALTERNATIVE LESBIAN & GAY CABARET

WITH STACK 'EM SISTERS DISCO! CAN IT REALLY BE HAPPENING IN SOUTH-EAST LONDON!?

They have so far booked: Jan Ponsford, Mark Bunyan....

BUT it will only continue if we give it support...

Monday evenings till 1.00am

PREMISES

Unfortunately, the premises we were interested in on Plumstead High St have been withdrawn by the owner... he was very keen, but apparently wasn't clear until recently who we were...when he found out, he changed his mind!

Cont....

active in your union come on one of the general womens courses. There are also short courses on topics like equal pay or work of equal value, womens health, women and pension

If interested contact Stephen Grinter, Regional Education Officer, TUC Education Department, Congress House, Great Russell Street, London WCIB 3LS

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POSITIVE ACTION WORKING GROUP

PAWG are the Council Committee that develop and monitor the Council's Equal Opportunities Policy. At their meeting on 11th September, their was an item discussing identification and monitoring of target groups. Geoff pointed out that as we do not yet appear on Council job adverts (in the EO Clause) we aren't truly being targetted.

PAWG agreed to ask Personnel why our inclusion is being held up given that we are one of the target groups. Maybe at last?!

COUNCIL JOBS LEAFLET

'Equality Now!', a leaflet which explains the Council's Equal Opportunities Policy and the need for monitoring.This is the one in which we nearly got left out. We are included in the following sentence: 'We know that some groups such as women, ethnic minorities, gays and lesbians and the disabled, don't have an equal chance at the moment and we are taking'positive action' to help them compete more fairly.'

It's good to be included, now perhaps we shall stand a chance of inclusion in job adverts!

CHE CONFERENCE

Geoff attended CHE's Conference in Manchester during August:

The weekend was very stimulating, unlike most conferences. CHE is now far from the rather staid and stuffy organisation it once was. There were many interesting workshops and videos, plus a showing of 'The Times of Harvey Milk' (Which has to be one of the most positive gay films ever).

One of the highlights for me was the opening address by the deputy leader of the Council. He had a very good grasp of lesbian and gay oppression and said that the Council was aware that good policies aren't enough: there has got to be positive action that is publicly upfront.

The Council employs four equal opportunities workers, as part of an EO Unit, two lesbians and two gay men.

Recognising the differences of oppression, lesbians and gay men are given two grants: one for a lesbian centre, one for a gay men's centre.

There are public meetings held every so often; these are pulicised by the Council in the form of glossy posters, small cards and leaflets...

It goes to show how tokenistic many local 'positive' councils are! I think that we should stop comparing ourselves with areas that are not positive and start to measure against places like Manchester.

MANCHESTER EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES UNIT

Following Geoff's visit to the CHE Conference and discussions with Tim Barnett, we have decided to invite a lesbian and a gay male worker from this unit to talk to the Council's ad-hoc committee, to a meeting of Labour Party activists and an open meeting of lesbians and gay men in Greenwich.

ACTSS/TGWU

Following the triumph at the TUC Conference - if you missed the massive (!) media coverage, Conference voted overwhelmingly to demand legislation to protect us from discrimination in all areas of life - The London Gay Campaign Group has decided to take up the issue as a major campaign. As a speaker from ACTSS supported the TUC decision, Mr Maslin is obviously out of touch with the mood of his own union as well as the TUC. So, now is the time to apply pressure and isolate him further, also pressing for action from the Council regarding his homophobic outbursts in the press.

DISCO

The disco held at the Clockhouse during September was very good. That is, those of us who went enjoyed ourselves - but where were you all?!

Nevermind, you can always find out how good our discos are by coming to the one on Friday 11th October...only 50p/35p.

PEOPLE'S FAIR

Well, we braved the elements - the high winds and the threat of rain - and it was good! Being so cold it wasn't as well attended as it might have been and most people were too shy to come up to the stall...but it was good to be part of the day's events.

DEAF LESBIANS AND GAY MEN

Brothers and Sisters Club meets in the upstairs bar, Craven Club, 32 Craven St, WC2, first Friday every month, 8.30pm.

PRESS MONITORING

The Campaign for Press and Broadcasting Freedom is planning a two-week monitoring project later this year.

Can any of you volunteer to cover the local papers? Would you undertake to monitor a journal or magazine for two weeks?

If you are imterested, contact: Julienne Dickey,CPBF, 9 Poland St, W1V 3DG.

HUMAN RACE OR NUCEAR RACE?

CND's national demonstration will be on OCTOBER 26th at Hyde Park.

It will assemble from 11.00 - 12.30., then encircle the park, taking in the US/USSR embassies. There will be a number of symbolic actions (die ins, four minute silences) and a rally with speakers/live music from 3.30-5.30.

We will be there with a banner. Contact the office nearer the time for details of where to meet etc.

SACKED MINERS HOLIDAYS

'People are now discovering the price of insubordination and insurrection. And boy, are we going to make it stick.'- Mc Gregor.

There is an appeal to raise money to send 35 sacked miners and families on a holiday. Let us not forget those men and women still being victimised for daring to stand up for their jobs, communities and families.

The sponsorship fee is 35 pounds per person, but they will obviously accept any donations.

Cheques to: MINERS' CHILDREN'S HOLIDAY FUND, 335 Ley Street, Ilford, Essex.

THE MAIDS by Jean Genet

Gay Autonomous Group presents The Maids, October 8th-13th,

Time: 7.00pm.

Dar'en, Nigel and Stephen formed GAG in order to stage The Maids. As three gay men they are presenting the play as it was originally intended: performed by gay men.

Diary of Events

GROUP SOCIAL

Octobers social will be held at Paddy's, 25 Charlton Road, Blackheath (Standard) SE3. Bus:53, 54, 75, 108, 108B.

Date: 16th October, 8.00pm.

OPEN MEETING

At The Clockhouse, Leda Road, Woolwich Church Street, SE18.

Date: 7th October.
Time: 8.00pm.

Wheelchair Accessible.

Bus: 177, 180. BR: Woolwich Arsenal.

GAYS THE WORD

Jonathan Cutbill, one of the shop's directors, will be speaking about the Commital and the forthcoming court appearance.

Venue: LEFT ALIVE! LEE CENTRE, Aislibie Road, Lee, SE12.

Time: 2.00pm.

This is one of many interesting workshops being held as part of the LEFT ALIVE day. See last newsletter for further details.

DATE: 19th October.

LESBIAN STRENGTH BENEFIT

London Lesbian and Gay Centre, October 9th, 8.30-12.00pm.
DISCO PLUS LIVE JAZZ FROM JAN PONSFORD & FRANCES KNIGHT! Mixed M/F.

HELP LINES

LESBIAN AND GAY LINE GREENWICH - 853 5499

Tuesdays: Mixed, 7-10pm
Thursdays: Lesbian, 7-10pm.

LGYM PHONELINE: 317 9690

Mon/Wed/Fri: 6pm-9pm
Sat/Sun: 3-6pm.

TERENCE HIGGINS TRUST: 278 8745

Every day - 7-10pm

We have received no letters this issue. Please send us your comments/views for next issue.

Also, if you'd like to write an article for the newsletter, we'll be more than happy to include it.

Anyone got any ideas, articles, cartoons, comments for the magazine don't hsitate to send them into us at the adress below.

Published by: Greenwich Lesbian and Gay Rights Group, 18 Haddo Street, Greenwich, London, SE10 9RN. Tel: 853 5206

CLOCKHOUSE: DISCO

FRIDAY 11th OCTOBER

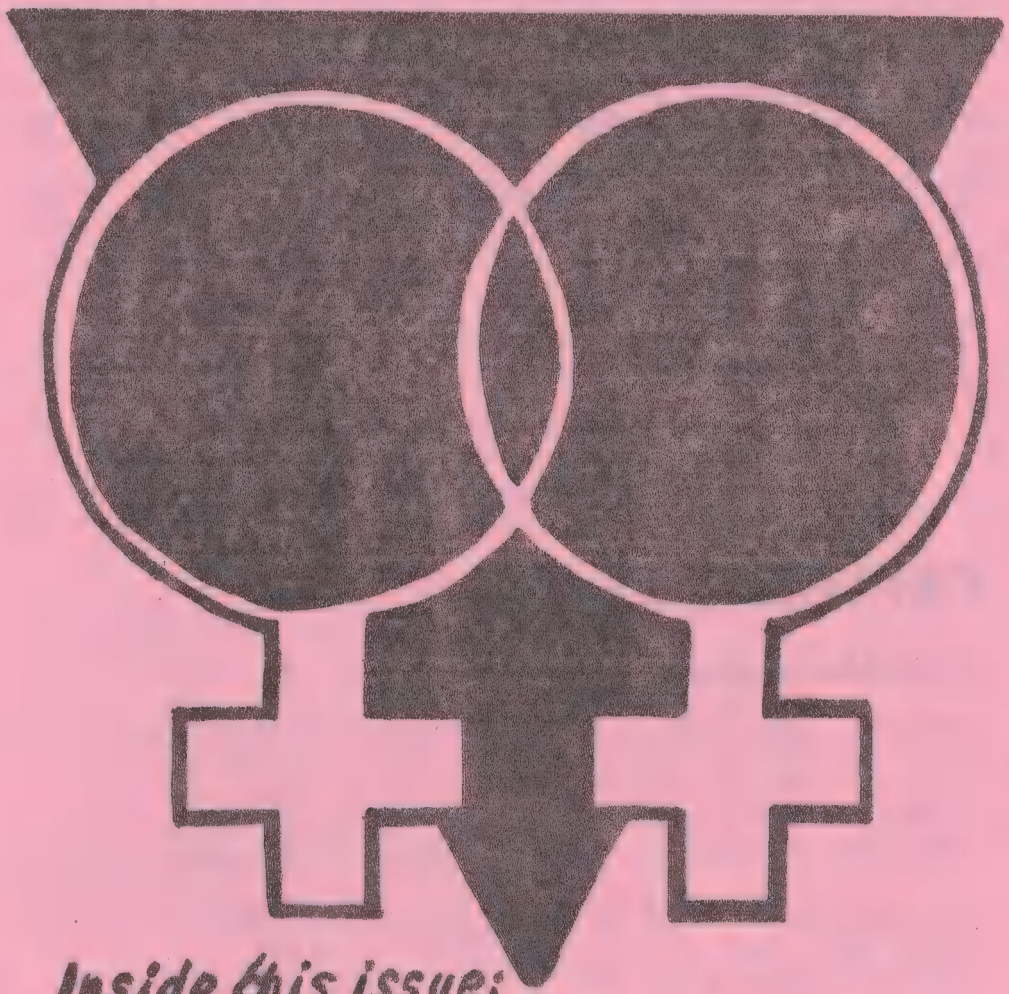
- To be held at the CLOCKHOUSE Community Centre, Defiance Walk, Woolwich SE18
- Time from 8pm until 11pm
- Entry 50p (35p u.w)
- Transport - BR Woolwich Arsenal, Buses 177 & 180

(4)

24 OCT 1985

Newsletter of....

GREENWICH LESBIAN AND GAY RIGHTS GROUP



Inside this issue;

WHAT'S ON OCT/NOV

Changing the World

GLC LESBIAN AND GAY CHARTER:

'CHANGING THE WORLD':

This has now been published in wonderful, glossy format. It's been the subject of a TV programme...it's well worth getting a copy if you want to feel good about things. Copies are free from: GLC County Hall Bookshop. You can either call in, or ring 633 5000, and ask for the bookshop. They'll send you copies free of charge.

CAPITAL GAY

CAPITAL GAY'S FREE PAGE

Capital Gay have offered us use of their Free Page. For those who don't know, this means that we have about 2/3 of a page to ourselves. We have to write the material/ write headlines/provide photgraphs/cartoons.

If you would like to help to compile the page/have any skills to offer, please get in touch with the Office. Thanks.

Publication date is 5th December, so the deadline for copy is 29th November.

The Healthy Sailor

The premises we are now looking at are located above a cafe with the above name. They are on the one - way system in Greenwich. The rent is within our budget, we are waiting for a decision from the Council as to whether or not they will purchase the lease.

Fully decorated, carpeted, with spotlights, they are really good. They are on two floors and have fair sized rooms which could be used for meetings/socials. The only drawback is that they are not wheelchair accessible. However, as long as we continue to hold major events in accessible venues, this may have to be accepted: we have been looking for over a year without success...

We also looked at some premises on the riverfront in Greenwich. These consist of a small room/very large room. The loo is shared which is a drawback.

The advantage of the large room is it's flexibility: it could be divided into small areas for office use/small groups, or it could host conferences/self defence courses etc. It's size, making it so flexible could help to fundraise (ie hire out for conferences).

Once again though, it is also not accessible for wheelchair users.

RACISM AWARENESS TRAINING

The course will definitely be going ahead in January 1986 and will be led by Linda King and Associates. The course is aimed mainly at people working in Greenwich and they will be given first priority. The training is for anyone wishing to work on racism in their workplace and initiate some training themselves.

The course entails an initial interview with each participant and is based around this research. This is followed by a four day training session using role play and discussion to explore people's feelings and experiences about racism and sexism and then goes on to practice and explore new behavious they can take back into the work situation. There follows three further weekend sessions over a three month period to follow up and support people whilst they are setting up training in their own place of work. Hopefully a support network will be established.

The cost of the course is £100 per person and this will need to be paid for by December 10th or as soon as possible after that date. If interested, get in touch with Maggie as soon as possible and she will send details/application form.

On the course we hope also to look at issues of heterosexism and racism/ criticisms that have been levelled at RAT training in the media.

SELF DEFENCE

The self-defence group has now met for 3 successful weeks and we are all learning important and useful techniques. So far the numbers of women to men are relatively even. But we are short of people. So if you are at all interested there is time for you to still join and catch up. We are meeting every Thursday evening at 7.30 at Charlton Training Centre,Ferranti Close, Westminster Industrial Estate, Woolwich SE I8.

Pink Singers

DO YOU EVER FEEL LIKE SINGING!!!!

THEN...THE PINK SINGERS NEED YOU.

The PINK SINGERS are starting another exciting new season, in the company of Kurt Weill, Hanns Eisler, Harold Rome, Alan Bush, Tom Lehrer, Sandy Wilson, and lots of your old favourites, maybe even SOUTH PACIFIC.

So, if you feel like singing and can join us REGULARLY on Sunday afternoons, come along to the LLGC, 69 Cowcross St., at 2.30pm...or, phone Robert: 850-0913 (h) 0689 75135 (w).

Diary of Events

OPEN MEETING

The next one will be on Monday 4th November at the Clockhouse, Leda Road, Woolwich Church Street, SE18.
Time: 8.00. Wheelchair accessible.

GOLDSMITH'S LESBIAN AND GAY DAY

This will be held on 20th November and will be part of the college Sexuality Awareness Week. Contact Gerald/Rachel on 692 1406 x23 for further details. They would appreciate a hand if you have any time to spare.

GROUP SOCIAL

Visits New Cross for a change.
David is hosting us this month: fantastic views across London!! Not to be missed!!
68 Hawke Tower, Nynehead Street, Milton Court Estate, New Cross SE14. (17th Floor)
Time: 8.00pm. Wednesday 20th Nov
How to get there: Bus 177,53; BR New Cross. It's close to Goldsmith's College/off Clifton Rise.

FORTHCOMING ATTRACTION: HORROR EVENT
FRIDAY 13TH DECEMBER.
MORE DETAILS NEXT MONTH.

MARCH AGAINST APARTHEID!

London, Sat. Nov. 2nd.
ASSEMBLE: Hyde Park, 12-1pm.
OR: Kennington Park, 12.30-1.30pm
OR: Tower Hill, 12.30-1.30pm.

RALLY: Trafalger Square, 3pm.

organised by: Anti-Apartheid Movement.

We will be going with the banner; phone the office nearer the time for details.

HUMAN RACE OR NUCLEAR RACE? Britain can make a difference!

CND's NATIONAL DEMONSTRATION, OCT. 26th.

11.00-12.00 encircling Hyde Park, taking in US/USSR embassies. Various actions. Live Music 3.30-5.40.

MEMBERSHIP FEES

Unfortunately, because of some financial restraints, we are going to have to introduce a fee for membership of the group.

It costs quite a lot to print and mailout this newsletter, run discos, finance the phoneline, run an office and so on - and the membership is increasing...so we hope that you will decide to send us your fee when you are asked for it.

The next Open Meeting will decide on the amount to be charged, so if you have strong feelings about it: come along! Suggestions so far are as follows: £1.00 un or low-waged/£3.00 waged/£5.00 institutions.

The new fees will take effect from January.

OPEN EVENING

ON

EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES

WITH

ONE OF THE LESBIAN AND ONE OF THE GAY WORKERS

FROM MANCHESTER CITY COUNCIL.

SUNDAY OCTOBER 27TH FROM 8.00pm.

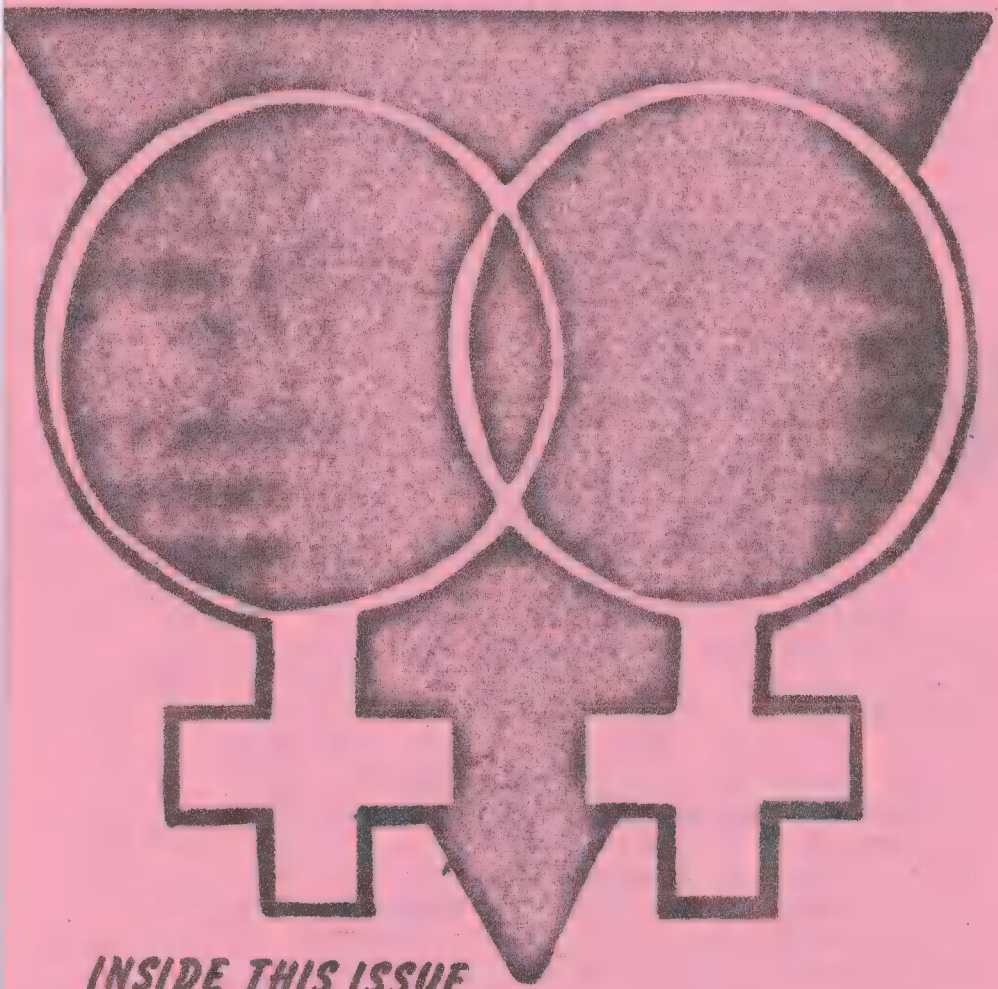
AT: 25 CHARLTON ROAD, BLACKHEATH STANDARD,
LONDON SE3 (BUSES 53,54,108B)

BRING A BOTTLE BRING A BOTTLE BRING A BOTTLE

Published by: Greenwich Lesbian and Gay
Rights Group, 18 Haddo Street, Greenwich,
London, SE10 9RN. Tel: 853 5206

Newsletter of....

GREENWICH LESBIAN AND GAY RIGHTS GROUP



INSIDE THIS ISSUE

WHAT'S ON

DEC/JAN

WIDENING THE WEB - DECEMBER I4th I985

GREENHAM COMMON WOMEN'S PEACE CAMP.

Greenham is calling all women everywhere to join together to extend the web of women's action. What started as asingle thread of resistance to Cruise has developed into a multi-coloured web as connections have been made with other women's actions around racism, sexism,classism,imperialism and poverty.

REMEMBER: December I2th I979:
Nato's decision to site cruise missiles in Europe starting with Greenham Common.

December I2th I982:
35,000 women embrace the base at Greenham and decorate the fence.

December IIth I983:
50,000 women gather and take down miles of fence.

Once again we will encircle the base. Bring messages,banners,candles,balloons etc.
At 2,00 we will link hands all around the base and in silence we will turn our backs on the base and look out to the people's of the world and a positive future.
Greenwich women are organising a coach to the base for the day. Starting at a nd returning to Woolwich Arsenal Station.Some of us will be staying on Saturday night if anyone is interested in action and workshops on Sunday. PLEASE BOOK EARLY.
Phone Terri 3I0-2I49 preferably after 6.00pm.
This is a call to every woman who has ever been to Greenham and every woman who has never been.
For information and details about Greenwich women and Grenham,about our meetings and if you are interested in supporting Greenham:
Ring Alison:853-28I8/Margaret 3I7-8487.
(evenings and weekends).

PREMISES : ABOVE THE HEALTHY SAILOR.

We are now waiting on a final decision from the Community Affairs Committee on Dec. 4th.

The likelyhood of them turning down our particular proposal for paying the rent is very slim. So we are reasonably confident of getting the premises. Keep your fingers, toes and elbows crossed!

CAPITAL GAY DECEMBER 5th (prov.)

Capital Gay will have free page on the group, the phoneline and our various activities at the beginning of December. At the moment they hope it will be the 5th but it may be the week after. So look out for it.

CONTACT NUMBERS FOR THE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

If you want to get in touch with the management committee at any time these are the people to contact:

WENDY LAIRD: 692 1415(work)
SUE SPENCER DEEKS: 692 6055(home)
ALEX SMITH: 856 8758(home)
PADDY HUGHES: 854 8888 ext.2055(work)

JUMBLE SALE

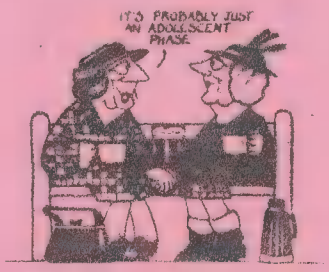
Some group members have decided to organise a fund-raising jumble sale for the new year. As of yet there is no central collection point for jumble, but PLEASE if you have any don't throw it away! In the January issue we'll let you have more details.

CHEEKS - YOUR LOCAL NITE-SPOT!

Cheeks, I8 Deptford Broadway, has gone gay every night of the week. It has four bars and a restaurant. Transport includes New Cross and Deptford British Rail, buses 53, I77 and many night ones.

LIBRARY

We have a small collection of lesbian and gay books in the office which are available on loan. Speaking of which, would the person who has borrowed 'AUDEN IN LOVE' by Farnon please return it as it is urgently needed. Thank you.



GROUPSGROUPSGROUPSGROUPS!

Several people have put themselves forward to act as contacts for different groups and activities.

Women's group : Kate - 317- 8984.

Evening's Out : Sue - 692-6055.
These will take place on the third Saturday of the month and will include cinema and theatre.

Sunday Stroll : Mike - 854-8392.
These will be on the last Sunday in the month.
The first one will be on .
JANUARY 26th 1986 at 2.00pm
Meet outside Plum Manor School
Old Mill Road, SE 18.
CHILDREN WELCOME.

Swimming/Sport: Alex - 8545499/8553382.
Alex and Steve are hoping to meet three times a week on Mondays,wednesdays,fridays, with one being an evening.

Games group : Roz - 854 - 8392.
We would like to meet twice a month,possibly a Sunday and an evening to play cards,board and other games. Ring Roz with a list of games you have and would like to play.

You can ring any of these friendly people to find out when the next group/event is happening and to offer any help or suggestions.
Over to you!

LESBIAN AND GAY STUDIES COURSE.

We are currently drawing up a syllabus for the above course. It will be open to all lesbians and gay men as well as any heterosexual people who want to come and learn from us. It will start on FEBRUARY MONDAY 10th at 7.30 at West Greenwich House, Greenwich High Road, Greenwich. A complete list will be in the January newsletter.

SELF INSEMINATION GROUP

We want to set up an ongoing group for lesbians who are either thinking of, practising or have done self insemination (AID) to give each other support, practical help and advise and exchange information. Lesbians with or without children are welcome.
If interested please contact: Maggie 853-5206

LESBIAN GROUP

A group of us who live/work in the Borough have decided to try and organise a group for lesbians in Greenwich and the surrounding areas so that we can get together and socialise, give support and plan activities together.

At present we are only at the planning stages, looking for a venue to hol the meetings and exchanging ideas. We hope to meet on a Wednesday 7 - 10pm, beginning as soon as possible.

If interested please contact Maggie-853-5206.

SOCIAL EVENING

The next social evening will be on DECEMBER IIth at Bill Murphy's 6IA BENARES ROAD, SEI8. EVERYONE IS WELCOME.

APOLOGIES

In the last issue of the news letter we announced that there would be a horror event on I3th December. Unfortunately we have been forced to cancel due to the difficulty in finding suitable venue.

BUT!

We've booked the fabulous grand hall at West Greenwich House for a mega GLGRG benefit on Saturday February 8th.

We hope to have a number of live performers and are especially keen for any budding local talent to get in touch. You don't have to be a big name, just able to keep us entertained!

Also, if anyone knows of a cheap PA system for hire, please contact Gill at the office (853 5206) Wed, Thurs or Fridays.

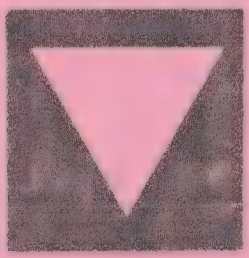
SUBSCRIBE!

The November Open Meeting decided to accept the introduction of a subscription fee for the Newsletter. It does cost a lot to print and mail out, so we hope that you will send in your subscription.

If you can't afford even the 1.00 fee, let us know and we'll send you it free of charge.

Every one will receive the next issue, but from then, only those who send a subscription will receive copies.

1.00 UNW 3.00 WAGED 5.00 INST'NS



Dec. OPEN MEETING: WILL BE AT THE CLOCKHOUSE COMMUNITY CENTRE AT 8.00pm, December 2nd.

Jan. OPEN MEETING WILL BE AT THE CLOCKHOUSE COMMUNITY CENTRE AT 8.00pm, January 6th.

G.L.G.R.G.
c/o COMMUNITY AFFAIRS
RIVERSIDE HOUSE
BERESFORD HOUSE
LLONDON SE 18.

Lesbian: ☐
Gay: ☐
Bisexual: ☐
Other: ☐

21 - 30 ☐
31 - 40 ☐
41 - 50 ☐
51 - 60 ☐
61 or over ☐

Living situation:
Parents: ☐
Hostel/similar: ☐
By yourself: ☐
With partner(s), lesbian/gay: ☐
" " " , heterosexual: ☐
With friend(s): ☐
Other (please specify): ☐

Work:
Unemployed: ☐
Housework: ☐
Childcare: ☐
Volunteer work: ☐
Paid work: ☐
Student: ☐
Other: ☐

Religion:
Jewish: ☐
Islamic: ☐
Hindu: ☐
Sikh: ☐
Buddhist: ☐
Christian: ☐
Other: ☐
Atheist: ☐

Ethnic Background:
Asian: ☐
Afro/Caribbean: ☐
African: ☐
UK: ☐
Irish: ☐
European: ☐
Vietnamese: ☐
Chinese: ☐
Other (please specify): ☐

QUESTIONNAIRE GREENWICH LESBIAN AND GAY RIGHTS GROUP

This questionnaire has been put together in order to look at your needs and wishes, so that the Group reflects your interests more than it does at present.

Information will be treated in the strictest confidence.

****

Name: Address:

Phone:

(The above may be left blank if you wish).

Personal Details: Sex: F ☐ M ☐

Sexuality:
Lesbian: ☐
Gay: ☐
Bisexual: ☐
Other: ☐

Age: under 21 ☐
21 - 30 ☐
31 - 40 ☐
41 - 50 ☐
51 - 60 ☐
61 or over ☐

Living situation:
Parents: ☐
Hostel/similar: ☐
By yourself: ☐
With partner(s), lesbian/gay: ☐
" " " , heterosexual: ☐
With friend(s): ☐
Other (please specify): ☐

Work:
Unemployed: ☐
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Other: ☐

Ethnic Background:
Asian: ☐
Afro/Caribbean: ☐
African: ☐
UK: ☐
Irish: ☐
European: ☐
Vietnamese: ☐
Chinese: ☐
Other (please specify): ☐

Religion:
Jewish: ☐
Islamic: ☐
Hindu: ☐
Sikh: ☐
Buddhist: ☐
Christian: ☐
Other: ☐
Atheist: ☐

Disability:

Do you consider yourself to have disabilities? Yes ☐ No ☐

If so, please specify, including particular needs:

Class: Working Class: ☐
Middle Class: ☐
Other: ☐

****

Interests:

Do you enjoy going to:

Pubs: Lesbian/Gay ☐ Straight ☐
Loud music ☐ Soft music ☐ Live entertainment ☐ (please specify)

London Lesbian & Gay Centre:

Clubs/Discos: Large ☐ Small ☐ Women only ☐ Other ☐ (please specify)

Do you go to:

	Never	Sometimes	A Lot
Central/North London	☐	☐	☐
South East London	☐	☐	☐

Are you involved in another Group(s)? Please Specify:

Yes ☐ No ☐

Do you socialise at friends houses?

Never ☐ Sometimes ☐ A Lot ☐
Parties ☐ Small Groups ☐ Other ☐ (please specify)

Do you go to:

	Never	Sometimes	A Lot
Cinema:	☐	☐	☐
Theatre:	☐	☐	☐
Concerts:	☐	☐	☐ (What type?)
Sports:	☐	☐	☐
Other:	☐	☐	☐

Would you be interested in no-smoking events?

****

The Group:

How did you find out about the Group? Friends ☐ Help lines ☐ Media ☐ Other ☐

Have you been to anything we've organised?
What did you go to?
Did you enjoy it?
Can you say why/why not?
Do we do things that interest you?
What else would you like us to do?

Use space under Comments (P. 3) for your answers.

What else would you like the Group to do/organise?

Comments: Please feel free to tell us anything else.

Thank you for your help in completing this questionnaire.